

## Rhodesia mobilizes to face biggest guerrilla offensive

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Mr Ian Smith  
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## Smith forecasts hardship

ratio of guerrillas killed to security force losses had been constant in the past three years. Mr Smith said the strength of the security forces would be increased to field level. This would entail some hardship and some interruption of family life and of business and professional activities. The Rhodesians would need a full measure of moral courage in the coming months and they would be subjected to psychological warfare more intensive and insidious than ever before.

Referring to pressure on his Government to heed the lessons of Mozambique, Mr Smith said that if his Government did surrender, nothing would be more certain than the inevitability of civil war between blacks in Rhodesia.

He went on to say that the only settlement he could obtain in haste would be one involving an immediate secession to black rule. This was unacceptable. The kind of settlement he wanted could not be achieved in haste but by patient negotiation and discussion.

Mr Smith said the guerrillas operating out of Mozambique were of the Zanu faction which regarded the current negotiations between the Government and Mr Nkomo's faction of the African National Council as irrelevant. The aim of Zanu was to dominate all the people of Rhodesia, including their black rivals, and to do so by terrorism. Hence they had to be defeated whether or not the constitutional discussions reached a successful conclusion.

The Prime Minister accused the Russians and Cubans of "blatant aggression" in Angola. Their immediate objective, he said, was to create a "saddle" across Africa reaching from the Atlantic coast in Angola to Tanzania and Mozambique on the east coast.

## Hundreds trapped in Tube station explosion

By Staff Reporter

For London Underground trains packed with passengers were trapped in a tube station after a cable burst in a tunnel. There was a fire and, it is believed, an explosion. A hundred and fifty men were called to the scene.

At thirty five including two children, taken to hospital suffering from the effects of fumes and smoke. Some were given oxygen.

A woman who thought to have died had first suffered a heart attack. It was being detained in the Northern Hospital overnight.

The incident happened at about 4.20 pm, the start of the evening rush hour. Power was switched off and services were suspended. The Piccadilly Line between King's Cross and Wood Green and the Victoria Line between King's Cross and Seven Sisters. They were not due to resume before this morning. Lighting and telephone links were also cut.

Scotland Yard did that on one main, the Arsenal station, passengers were in a state of collapse. The doors opened. Seven were taken to hospital.

As the rescue got under way, traffic between the two stations was stopped. The rescue got under way. The rescue got under way.

Later all the trapped passengers were evacuated. Assistant Chief Fire Officer Frederick Hurcombe said: "There has been a fire in one of the tunnels, which is now under control."

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The trip is officially described as being for "family reasons" but it is widely assumed that Mr. Todd will take the opportunity of discussing the Rhodesian dispute with British officials while in London. He will also be visiting his daughter, Judith, who lives in Britain.

Photograph, page 4  
Leading article, page 13

## Lord Ryder in clash with Rolls-Royce board

By Maurice Corina

and Malcolm Brown

Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, is being challenged by the full board of the nationalized Rolls-Royce (1971) in a bitter behind-the-scenes argument over his future powers of intervention in top management.

The outcome of what is being described in Whitehall as "a bitter test of wills" will determine how far the controversial NEB can interfere with the work of industrialists and bankers engaged in running the aero-engine giant as well as such enterprises as British Leyland, Ferranti, International Computers, and Alfred Herbert.

So serious is the dispute that Rolls-Royce has asked Lord Goodman, the Prime Minister's personal adviser, to act as a peacemaker.

Lord Goodman, who is unwell, has been asked to meet Lord Ryder next week.

His brief is to persuade the NEB chief that he will want to cover Lord Ryder's future conduct and methods of operation.

These guidelines, intended to reassure industrialists, are due to be notified to Parliament and given statutory effect by the issue from Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, of a written directive to Lord Ryder and his enterprise board.

Close consultations have been

taking place with the Confederation of British Industry, which is hopeful of winning new curbs on the powers of the NEB.

But these delicate negotiations are being threatened by a developing argument between Sir Kenneth Keith, chairman of Rolls-Royce, and Lord Ryder.

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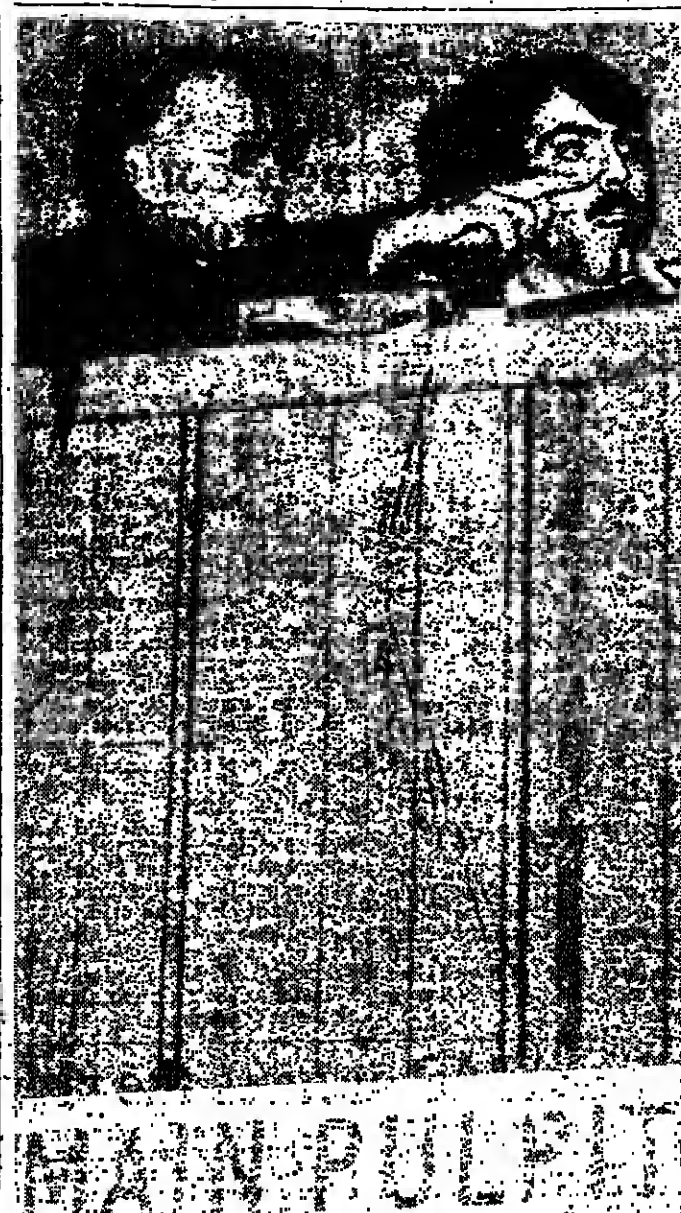
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The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Gossan, in the control room, known as the main pulpit, on a visit to Sheerness steel mill yesterday.

## Milton returns on honours

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## Mr Nixon accepts invitation to revisit China on anniversary of historic trip

From David Bonavia

Peking, Feb 5

Mr and Mrs Richard Nixon have been officially invited to revisit China this month and have accepted the invitation, the New China news agency announced tonight.

Recalling that the former President's visit to China in 1972 had played "a significant role in improving Sino-United States relations", the agency said that "a revisit to China by him will be appropriate."

It added: "The Government of the People's Republic of China has extended an invitation to him and Mrs. Nixon to revisit China on February 21, the fourth anniversary of their first visit. They have accepted the invitation with pleasure."

The invitation to Mr Nixon is not a complete surprise. It has been rumoured for several months past that the former President would even be glad to be nominated as head of America's diplomatic mission in Peking, for which other leaders have not been found since Mr George Bush left last year to take up the position of head of the Central Intelligence Agency. It is known that Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, the late Prime Minister, established a personal and intellectual rapport with Mr Nixon, which they still valued despite the souring of China's

relationship with Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, who originally arranged Mr Nixon's first visit.

The present invitation is an extraordinary sign of the independent attitude of the Chinese leadership towards political opinion and of the emphasis they place on the importance of other countries' establishing normal relations with China, whatever the domestic repercussions may be.

The invitation is widely seen in Peking as a personal initiative of Chairman Mao, who is 82 and is believed to have been greatly moved by the recent death of Chou En-lai, his revolutionary comrade in arms during 40 years.

The implications of Mr Nixon's visit for China's foreign policy are far-reaching. It demonstrates that China's leaders care little for the opinion of what they regard as scatter-brained leftists in

Western countries, who will doubtless be shocked.

Much more important in their view is an emphasis on firm opposition to Soviet expansionism. They evidently see Mr Nixon as the man who managed to combine a day in Washington with firm policy towards the Russians, an implied reproach to President Ford whom they see as too much under Dr Kissinger's influence.

Our Washington Correspondent writes: Mr Nixon caught Washington off balance with the news of his second visit to China.

Dr Kissinger emphasized that the Chinese invitation had nothing to do with the United States Government. This is a necessary qualification as Mr Nixon has often dropped hints that he would like to become an American envoy "to the world". President Ford has rejected the idea.

But Dr Kissinger said that no aspect of United States foreign policy was more important than relations with China. "Therefore his visit as a private citizen will symbolize that relationship with us expect to grow."

At the White House, Mr Ron Messen, Mr Ford's press secretary, somewhat disavowed Dr Kissinger in insisting: "There is no significance attached to the trip by the White House."

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## NEWS

negligent over  
city case  
utions, MP says

which I am already probing the Attorney General," he said. Mr. Allison also believed there was another area in which the Government was culpably negligent, the control of imported pornographic films by the Board of Customs and Excise. He said there was an "understanding" with the commercial film industry as a substitute for proper scrutiny. "This understanding is clearly quite inadequate, as well as being extrajudicial, and the result is that grossly indecent films are on public display in London which customs and excise had a duty to seize under the statute and failed to do so."

At the instance of a member of the public, he had referred the systematic failure to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) for investigation. Letters, page 13

Father jailed  
for incest

A Bradford man aged 33 who admitted four charges involving his daughter was a regular reader of pornography, Mr. Michael Meredith, for the prosecution, said at Leeds Crown Court yesterday. The man, admitted to five children, was charged with incest, indecent assault, and incest with his daughter when she was 13 and 14 and two charges of incest involving her. He was jailed for four years.

Landlords  
seek ban  
on showing  
sex films

The landlords of a cinema in Soho, London are seeking in the High Court a ban on the showing of four sex films in their premises. C. & W. Warner Ltd say that the films, *They Love Sex*, *Lustful Lovers*, *Erotic Inferno* and *Acts of Love*, are lewd and pornographic and in breach of a covenant in the lease. That is disputed by Craway Securities Ltd, who lease and manage the Astral 1 and Astral 2 in Brewer Street. They asked Mr Justice Goffing yesterday to transfer the action from the Chancery Division to the Queen's Bench Division, where a judge can sit with a jury. Mr Alexander Irvine, counsel for Craway, said the question whether a film was lewd or pornographic depended on standards of public decency. It was therefore particularly suitable for determination by a jury. All four films had been given an X certificate by the British Board of Film Censors. The judge made no order on the plea to transfer the case. The landlords' move to ban the films and for an interim injunction to stop the showing of lewd and pornographic films was adjourned.

## Fire victim found

The body of Mr. Douglas Mills, aged 26, a resident missing since the fire wrecked the Royal Hotel, flat 11, in the Victoria Road, Brighton, Sussex, was found in the debris yesterday, after a month.



Aspects of wine tasting at the Horticultural Hall, London. A 50p entrance ticket entitles visitors to six glasses.

## Health authority spending criticized

From Ardusman Solihull Area Health Authority has been told by representatives of its workers that economy measures designed to counter the authority's severe financial crisis were being imposed at a cost to the health service.

At the end of the present financial year, faces criticism from its staff on a number of financial matters. They include the leasing of new offices at a cost of £105,000 a year while offices the authority vacated remain empty but are still costing £16,000 a year in rent. The authority's staff panel, according to an employee yesterday, had questioned the justice of proposing cuts in staffing when heavy costs for accommodation had been incurred for the area headquarters. If it was decided that it was necessary to economize on staff, particularly in area headquarters, the staff demanded to be satisfied that all unnecessary expenditure was being controlled. The panel also questioned the despatching of staff and public from the authority's meetings, thus giving rise, they said, to speculation and rumour.

'Trotskyist threat' of  
Young Socialists

By Martin Huckerby Political Staff  
Mr. Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, yesterday criticized Young Socialists in the Labour Party as being the party which the National Executive Committee was incapable of tackling.

"For far too long the Trotskyists of the so-called 'militant tendency' have been allowed to dominate the Labour Party Young Socialists and the National Organisation of Labour Students. It is time they were effectively challenged," he said. Mr. Prentice, who is fighting attempts to oust him as Labour MP for Newham, North-east, faces opposition from left-wing representatives of youth groups within his own constituency party. Speaking to the new Oxford University Democratic Labour Club, he said the state of the Young Socialist groups was simply one aspect of the dangers of Trotskyist influences within the Labour Party. "The National Executive Committee were presented with a powerful report on those dangers by the national agent a few weeks ago. It is typical of their supine leadership that they refused even to discuss that report."

He believed there was an urgent need for social democratic leadership among students and among young people generally. "Democracy badly needs to be invigorated by a great increase of activity at the grass roots, and particularly by more younger people becoming personally involved. People who believe positively in democratic values should not leave the field open to minority groups of way-out extremists. The task of translating social democratic ideals into policies for the 1970s and 1980s could not be left to overburdened ministers or to 'that curious piece of antique furniture, the National Executive Committee.' If the Labour Party was to have a future which measured up to its past, he believed the young people who supported social democracy must get into action."

The new 625line BBC television transmitting station for Orkney, on Keelpling Hill, near Kirkwall, will be in operation by February 20, Mr. Alastair Hetherington, Controller of BBC, Scotland, said yesterday.

1 for 88-year old  
will not take

aged 88, being admitted to Lewisham Hospital on June 26. His plea of not guilty to murder was accepted on the ground of diminished responsibility. He admitted maliciously wounding Thomas Dirmine, aged 78, on the same day. A twister, who served in the 1914-18 War, and the other two men were all inmates at Drake Court, an old people's home at Brooklands Park, Blackheath, London.

Man who started fatal fire  
given 10 years' jail

Mr. Justice Croom-Johnson described a man of 19 at the Central Criminal Court yesterday as "clever, unscrupulous, evil and very dangerous." He jailed Paul Michael Neale, of no fixed address, for a total of 10 years after a jury found him guilty of arson and manslaughter. Mr. Henry Pownall, for the prosecution, said that Mr. Neale and his co-defendant, Terence Alan Burr, aged 20, were residents at a probation hotel in Finchley, London, when the fire broke out in August, 1974. They set fire to the hotel to get revenge on the warden who had told Mr. Neale to leave. A young man living in the hotel died in the fire. Mr. Neale and Mr. Burr both denied starting the fire and murdering Stanislaus Swiatek. The jury found them guilty of arson, not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter. Mr. Burr was jailed for six years.

## h Tory hopes of curbing nationalists

pal aim of independence. It should not waste time attempting to provide local government. But now that the Scottish Assembly has been promised, and local government has been reorganised into more powerful units and the party has more resources for campaigning, most nationalists believe local elections cannot be ignored. Another fact in favour of the Conservatives, who have a majority on the Grampian Regional Council, could be the successful way it has taken over after reorganization. Rate rises have been restrained, councillors and administrators have escaped the controversies which broke around their counterparts in the Strathclyde and Central

regions, and while North Sea oil has created difficulties, that lucrative industry has kept employment and activity in the region at a high level. Mr. Alexander Murch, convenor of the Regional Council, said yesterday: "So far the SNP success has depended upon the abysmal record of the Government. If a Conservative government had performed as poorly as this, there would have been the same swing towards the nationalists. He hoped now that more local candidates in the former Aberdeenshire would stand clearly labelled as Conservatives, and not follow the old Aberdeenshire tradition of standing as independents. The SNP, however, has not been dismayed by the result. Members believe that a tradition for independence and a feeling locally that there was no reason for change led people to support the SNP vote."

## MP urges alliance to fight separation

By Our Political Staff  
An all-party alliance to defeat those seeking separatism for Scotland was demanded yesterday by Mr. Malcolm Rifkind, a Conservative spokesman on Scottish affairs. Mr. Rifkind, MP for Edinburgh, Pentlands, said it was becoming increasingly necessary for the majority in Scotland to show the same passion, conviction and purpose as the separatists, who wanted the break-up of Great Britain. "It is perhaps desirable that an alliance should be forged between all who seek the improvement of our institutions rather than the destruction and replacement of them. It is an

alliance that will bring together those who seek devolution and those who are fearful of it. The common enemy must be those to whom devolution is merely a step on the road to the separatist goal." He called for an alliance which would be all-party and non-party, including Conservatives, Socialists and Liberals, and embracing the many thousands of Scots who have voted for the Scottish National Party while hostile to its separatist objective. Mr. Alexander Fletcher, Conservative MP for Edinburgh, North, gave a warning yesterday that Scotland could be heading for independence, although opinion polls suggested that fewer than one person in five wanted to break with Britain. The reason, he said, was that the Scottish nationalist vote had to be accepted at its face value, because the SNP claimed that each vote for it was a vote for an independent Scotland. Mr. Crawford, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a speech at Brighton he thought it was clear that a majority of Scots rejected the idea of a totally independent Scotland. Given the right measure of control over areas where the Scottish dimension was particularly important, he believed the Scots wanted to preserve the union.

## between two home-rule crises

the Irish wanted office but could hope to stay there only with Irish support. He was concerned about the split in his party between the Joseph Chamberlain faction and the Lord Harrington faction. A big constitutional issue would attract attention from divisive social questions. He continued: Mr. Gladstone took office and declared at once his intention to give Ireland home rule. But when the Liberal Cabinet came to draft the necessary Bill, some of its leading members began to doubt whether any measure of devolution would not inevitably lead to Irish independence and the break up of the United Kingdom. Mr. Gladstone determined to press on. Joseph Chamberlain and Lord Harrington resigned, and with followers from the left and right wings of the Liberal Party, made

common cause with the Tories against the Home Rule Bill. The Bill was defeated. Mr. Gladstone resigned. The Liberal Party was shattered. Mr. Amery said he did not know why sympathies Mr. Wilson might have had with Scottish nationalism in the past. But he would have noticed the attempts of the Conservatives in opposition to woo the Scottish nationalists and that his hopes of remaining in office rested with the Scottish nationalists and Liberals. There was also a split in the Labour Party, with men like Mr. Heffer on the left and Mr. Jenkins on the right. Scottish home rule could be the issue to distract the party's attention from other issues.

Direct elections  
'would lead  
to federal state'

By Our Political Staff  
The real intention behind the introduction of direct elections to the European Parliament was the ultimate creation of a federal or unitary state, Mr. Neil Marten, Conservative MP for Banbury, suggested in a speech at Swansea yesterday. He said Mr. Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had rejected the idea of including in the forthcoming White Paper on direct elections a statement of the powers which the European Parliament would possess. "Clearly he wants to avoid discussion on this subject. And why? Because he and his followers know well that any such discussions will blow wide open the real intention behind direct elections," he said.

Welsh farming  
leaders reject  
devolution plans

Leaders of 20,000 Welsh farmers have rejected the White Paper on devolution for Wales. The National Farmers' Union's council for Wales, meeting yesterday in Aberystwyth, said that devolution should not be imposed unless the people of Wales clearly showed their approval in a referendum. Mr. David Carey-Evans, the council chairman, said that the decision was taken after consideration of detailed observations and resolutions from every NFU county branch in Wales. They showed a wide rejection of the proposals, he added.

Benn statement  
sought on  
nuclear project

By Our Political Staff  
Mr. John Biffen, Conservative spokesman on energy, called yesterday for a clear statement from Mr. Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, on the virtues of the Culham laboratories of the Atomic Energy Authority, Oxfordshire, as the site for the joint European torus project, a nuclear reactor producing energy by the fusion of light atoms such as hydrogen.

## ADVERTISEMENT

A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE  
OF BRITAIN

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Appeal for less materialism and a more simple and Christian way of life can best be achieved by bringing as many people back as possible to the realisation of the joys of seed time and harvest which are basic to human nature.

What follows—written just twenty-two years ago—is truer now even than it was then.

## MAN TODAY

## THE GOOD EARTH

by NOEL ARMSTRONG, M.A., LL.B.

(Founder and Honorary Secretary of the Norwich and District Food Production Council.)

1. THE NATIONAL OUTLOOK  
I think deeply and who looks ahead can find it to be anxious as to the national Outlook. Economically Britain with a population of 52 million on a small island, has yet to recover from the effects of two wars within the past 50 years and her chances of doing so are made harder by the changing economic circumstances of this half century. The world struggle for industrial markets and increasing world demand for food is gradually shifting the balance between the rewards for agriculture and the rewards for industry. Great Britain's days of cheap food imports and relatively high priced exports of manufactured goods have gone for ever. Britain can never again be the world's chief supplier of manufactured goods—she can never again be an agricultural country but unless she can materially alter the balance of home food production in relation to exports and imports she is likely to suffer a perennial series of economic crises.

2. THE GOOD EARTH  
In Norwich there is another school of thought—that man was intended by his Creator to have contact with the good earth and with nature and that many of our social, moral and spiritual troubles may be due to the fact that the Industrial Revolution divorced the large majority of our urban masses from those natural contacts: the result being that mankind is beginning to deteriorate even as a wild animal deteriorates in captivity. "It is because," as Mr. Green says, "large masses of people are deprived of the natural associations of living that they are apt to become bored and depressed by human existence. Dependence on the seasons and on the life cycle of animals is something which the human race may well need and if so it is something which must be satisfied. This is no romantic claim for a new way of life but rather a claim for recognition of an existing need in an industrial society for some of the forgotten skills and associations."

3. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION  
Then came the Industrial Revolution, the growth of large towns and the beginning of the materialistic age, which in many cases has brought hunger to the soul and a craving for artificial amusements as an antidote for natural happiness which is lacking. While between 1875 and 1914 Britain was flooding the world with manufactured goods, she was setting in exchange cheap food produced under conditions which the buyer himself would never have agreed to work. Taking the long view, cheap food has been a great disaster for Britain. It divorced our people from the joys of the manual and simple pleasures of life and led them to the passive and artificial. It encouraged them to expect, as of right, food produced under conditions which they themselves would not have tolerated. It has taught a wrong standard of values in the belief that if you only have

enough money, you have happiness. Cheap food taught our people that land is of no value—which is illustrated by the many idle plots in country and town alike—whereas in fact the spiritual life equally requires regular sustenance which it derives from prayer, worship and Bible reading and the like. It is also true that the physical beauty of splendid or natural surroundings has a vital part to play in our lives. Modern urbanization is something unnatural and we play with nature at our peril. It is part of the duty of the Christian Church to point this out.

4. THE PROBLEM OF FOOD  
In very many ways the spiritual is reflected in the physical. The material body requires regular nourishment: the spiritual life equally requires regular sustenance which it derives from prayer, worship and Bible reading and the like. It is also true that the physical beauty of splendid or natural surroundings has a vital part to play in our lives. Modern urbanization is something unnatural and we play with nature at our peril. It is part of the duty of the Christian Church to point this out.

The Norwich and District Food Production Council—a committee of delegates representing schools and allotments, and domestic poultry and rabbit keepers of Norwich and the surrounding area—has been formed in 1958 for economic reasons. It anticipated that Britain would never again be able to depend on cheap imported food as she did before the war and that the best safeguard against a permanent national food shortage was not to depend entirely on the farmers but for everyone with a garden or allotment to grow vegetables and raise small livestock such as poultry and rabbits for themselves.

5. NEW LEADERSHIP  
Now that hundreds of thousands of acres have been taken from farming for the housing of our population in the outlying urban areas it is possible to remedy some of the evils which I have referred earlier. But for that to happen there will have to be new ideas, new leadership and a new standard of values. Our economic and moral attitudes are bound up together and bear at the moment alarming similarities to those prevailing in the declining days of the ancient empires of Greece and Rome. The need to grow more food and to cook it properly will, as the years go by, become more demanding. In the future the nature and quality of man may have his job in office or factory with slightly shorter hours but combined with the necessity to cultivate his garden or allotment with crops, rear small livestock and be better off than a townsman with a higher wage. The return to that balanced economy spoken of by Dr. W. G. Hoskins as the best way of living ever achieved by mankind will in time lead to a better standard of values and an economic, social, moral and spiritual improvement in our nation which will reflect itself for the better over the whole of the British Isles. In the seven years of its existence the allotment holders, domestic poultry and rabbit keepers of Norwich and the surrounding area, by being the first to attempt the redress of some of the worst evils of the Industrial Revolution, by calling attention to the value of self help and the importance of the individual and his contribution to his own and national well-being, have found a positive creed of living which can give hope in the days of difficulty which must inevitably face the 32,000,000 people in these islands in the days ahead.

If all of us who can, practise the Gospel of the good earth it will not only make a huge contribution to our national balance of payments deficit and help to counter inflation but it will do much to help the Archbishop of Canterbury's Appeal for less materialism and a more simple and Christian way of life. And from the earth and its increase we shall once again learn the pride of industry and the necessity for Faith.

## LET'S ALL GO TO IT

NOEL ARMSTRONG, M.A., LL.B., 3 EATON ROAD, NORWICH NOR 48D

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## WEST EUROPE

## Encouraging words for Britain from W German Chancellor

By Roger Berthoud

Like the headmaster of a famously successful public school who has come to give out the prizes at a struggling comprehensive, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, last night had some encouraging words for Britain when he addressed the Foreign Affairs Club in London prior to today's talks at Chequers with Mr Wilson.

In the Federal Republic, he said in a remarkably relaxed and friendly speech at the Savoy Hotel, they were cheered by the better economic news coming from Britain. "I agree with the Prime Minister that the improvement in your balance of payments, the sharp reduction in your rate of inflation, the fall in the number of days lost through strikes last year are encouraging evidence that your economic strategy is working."

"When I say this, I do not intend to be patronizing in any way," he hastily added. "It is both a German and a British interest that your economic recovery should be as consistent and speedy as possible." He had no doubt that the basic interests of Britain and Germany "lie closer than ever before."

After alluding to last summer's referendum as Britain's marriage with Europe, Herr Schmidt had some kind words to make about the growing continental influence on the British way of life.

He had learnt from reliable sources, he said, that continental quilts (duvets, as we call them) were catching on in Britain with sales soaring to 750,000 last year and expected



Herr Schmidt: 'You are not tucking yourselves away any longer.'

to hit 1,250,000 this year. "I think that is very important, because it shows that you are breaking out of an old tradition; that many of you are not tucking yourselves away in isolation any longer, but that you are prepared to expose yourselves, mind and body."

Impressed though he was by this recent exposure, Herr Schmidt agreed with Jim Callaghan, as he called him, that we Europeans should not throw our identities overboard. The Community could not develop into an all-embracing European Union overnight by those "qualitative leaps" one heard so much about. "Each stage of integration must stand

the test that the people in our country are willing to endorse it... because it holds advantages for them and opens up prospects of a better future."

Turning to the disparities between the member states of the EEC, he pointed out that if West Germany's per capita national income was put at 100, the figures for the other eight in 1974 were: Denmark 98, Luxembourg 97, Belgium 89, France 85, Holland 82, Britain 55, Italy 44 and Ireland 35 (the United States would have been 106, Japan 67). He thought the two-speed solution, allowing stronger member states to move faster towards economic and monetary union—advocated in the recent Tindemans report—had "severe negative implications," a view shared by the British Government. "We should be running the risk of the gap growing wider still."

But he admitted that the European monetary "snake" was not a bad example of co-operation between some members without the strength of others being overtaxed. He thought that if Jim Callaghan von his hat that the Government would get inflation down to 10 per cent by the end of this year, it would considerably improve Britain's chances of joining the "snake."

After pointing to the benefits Britain had derived from EEC membership, he gave a warning that Germany was not at present in any position to finance new EEC undertakings. In 1975 it had made a net contribution of £475m to the common agricultural fund, three times more than in 1972, while Britain gained £160m net.

## Ministers in Italy accused of Mafia links

From Our Correspondent Rome, Feb 6

Sigior Giovanni Gioia, the Italian Minister of the Merchant Marine, Sigior Salvatore Lima, the Budget Under-Secretary, and several other prominent Sicilian politicians have been named by Communist MPs as being closely involved with the Mafia.

The names and many details of alleged collusion between the Mafia and Christian Democrat politicians in Sicily were disclosed by the Communist members of the Parliamentary Anti-Mafia Commission in a minority report on the commission's findings.

The document was published yesterday, simultaneously with the official commission report on its 13 years of investigations into the activities of the "hothouse society".

The Communists charge that the official report is unsatisfactory and disappointing since it misses the "central issue—the interpenetration between the Mafia and the state apparatus".

Sigior Girolamo Di Causi, the Sicilian Communist, who has suffered attempts on his life for investigating the Mafia, told a press conference that the Mafia was not simply a Sicilian problem: "It is an integral part of central power in Italy."

The Christian Democrat Party newspaper *Il Popolo* replied that the Communist charges were simply propaganda aimed at damaging the Christian Democratic Party.

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## OVERSEA

## Lockheed admit paying £500,000 to high Dutch official and more than £1m to Japanese

From Frank Vogt Washington, Feb 6

To secure sales contracts, the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation made secret payments of more than \$1m (£500,000) to a "high government official in Holland" and more than \$2m to Japanese Government officials.

Big payments were also made to government officials in Sweden and Italy.

These facts were revealed today by Mr A. C. Kean, the vice-chairman and former president of Lockheed, at a hearing of the subcommittee on multinational corporations. The name of the officials who received these payments were not disclosed.

Senator Charles McNairy, a member of the committee, said it was vital there should be an international agreement between governments to code of business ethics.

"I believe corruption does more to bring down democracies than anything else in the world," he added.

From details in the *Wall Street Journal*, that Lockheed had received a total of \$10m (£5m) from Lockheed today, Kitchin, who refused to reveal a name, said it was first alleged that the "high Dutch government official" was given a bribe of \$500,000 (£250,000) to secure a contract for the sale of Lockheed's DC-10 aircraft.

The payment was official, Lockheed admitted today, but it was made as a consultant fee to Mr Kodama Yoshio, a leader of an ultra-right military political party who was imprisoned after the Second World War for war crimes.

Some of this money might have gone to politicians. In addition more than \$2m (£1m) was paid to Japanese officials through other channels.

The payments in Japan were always made through use of numerous intermediaries and they were hidden by use of codes and false receipts. Thus, for example, one Lockheed agent in Japan signed a receipt for "100 peanuts", which Mr Kitchin admitted today was in fact a payment to a government official of 100m yen.

The payments to Mr Kodama were partly for his efforts to ensure that Japanese Airlines delayed making a decision on whether to buy either the Boeing 747 or the Douglas DC-10—until Lockheed was in a position to offer the competitive Tristar. Further, Mr Kitchin said payments were to gain access for the company to the

protection of the Rolls-Royce powered Tristar jet. A further \$85,000 from this secret fund went to an Englishman living in France who worked for the Cathay Pacific Airline company, which purchased the Tristar.

But the money from this fund did not just go on bribes. Mr Kitchin noted that \$10,000 went to an organization in London which counted a franchise of the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) on its staff. This company was hired to "gather intelligence" on what Lockheed's competitors were doing.

Mr Kitchin said that the company had lost important contracts in Italy to a French manufacturer, that made an aircraft inferior to Lockheed's product. This, he added, had probably been sold because bribes were made to Italian Government officials.

After these sales losses, the Lockheed company consultant a lawyer in Rome, who suggested that successful sales could be made only through bribes to political leaders. Successful Lockheed sales resulted after hundreds of thousands of dollars had been paid to officials.

Mr Kitchin admitted today that in Japan more than \$7m (£3,500,000) had gone as consultant fees to Mr Kodama Yoshio, a leader of an ultra-right military political party who was imprisoned after the Second World War for war crimes.

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## Djibouti tension over arrest of party chiefs

From Charles Hargrove Paris, Feb 6

While tension between France and Somalia over a border clash near Djibouti showed signs of subsiding today, it remained high among the people of the territory after the arrest yesterday of two leaders of the opposition party, the *Front Populaire pour l'Indépendance*.

The Somali Ambassador in Paris, in a statement to *Monde*, said that the two leaders were taken to Somalia by another independence movement, the *Front de Libération de la Somalie* (FLS), responsible for hijacking on Wednesday a school bus, would be taken to Mogadishu and handed over to the French authorities.

The Ambassador added that the child was under medical supervision and "in excellent health".

The Somali Government seems to be prepared to pressure the FLS to oblige the boy's return and Paris hopes that Somalia will accept a national conference.

France, however, insisted last night that it would only give up the child if demands were met. These included the immediate release of prisoners and unconditional independence.

Yesterday, the Somali Government called for a meeting of the United Nations Security Council and proposed that a mission should be sent to the border post of Loyodsee for investigation of the effects of the aggression of French troops. At the same time, it reported a concentration of French and American naval forces off the coast of Somalia, which it said was a massive attack mounted against it, according to the Ambassador.

But the Ministry for Overseas Territories in Paris said that the Somali Government report of fresh frontier incidents was unfounded.

The centre of Djibouti patrolled today by armed police after the arrest this morning of a man with a pistol, who was said to be planning an attack against Mr Ali Arret, the head of the autonomous Government.

Mr Garfield Todd, former Rhodesian Prime Minister, and his wife yesterday before they left for Britain.

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John H. Lee 1550

# Bringing Liberty to New York



Unveiling the Statue of Liberty, October 28, 1886.



tion, just as Bartholdi was to remember it as the inspiration of Laboulaye. The intention was for the statue to appear as impersonal in origin, as natural in theme, and as universal in appeal as possible. However, although it is difficult to prove conclusively, it is hard to imagine that it was not the patron who played the main role. Laboulaye, an older man whom Bartholdi appears to have revered, was not merely the guiding spirit of the whole effort. The monument's theme issues directly from the core of his political ideology. In Laboulaye's writings Liberty recurs as a leitmotif—indeed forms an underlying structural idea. "God and Liberty" (Voltaire's famous blessing on the head of Franklin's grandson) is even the motto of his American history (and fittingly, for in actual practice his liberalism—like his colleagues—was moderate and certainly without any taint of radical socialism). But it must be added that he had enough wit to see his position clearly, even caricaturing himself as the Frenchman in his Paris in America, who, returning to France "thinks and speaks only of liberty", and who, when finally considered a madman, defends himself in the most Gallic manner in the closing lines of the book: "The madness of love is cured when one is young; if old one dies of it; the madness of ambition yields sometimes to age and the contempt of mankind; the madness of liberty is never cured."

he spent part of the time in only a question of priorities. Caution was the watchword of these republicans; precipitous action was to be avoided at all costs. Let Bartholdi work out the first model; let the word be spread; then wait and see what happens in the political arena. The idea was to keep the project as a trump to be played when all the cards were down. Thus Bartholdi had to wait almost half a decade before the project was made public. Meanwhile, there was a testing of the intended mode of propaganda with a less pretentious, and correspondingly less dangerous, work. In 1873, there was a constitutional monarchist who had by then moved very close to the moderate republicans, in the closing months of his presidential office commissioned Bartholdi to execute a larger-than-life bronze statue of Lafayette to be given to the city of New York for the aid to Paris after the suffering of the siege of the winter of 1870-71. Exhibited in plaster in the Salon of 1873, it was as non-partisan a political gesture as could be conceived, and upon its delivery and erection in Union Square three years later during the centennial, it was a substantial success. French political observers consequently were not shocked when, in 1875, simultaneously with the triumph of the moderate republicans, the project of Laboulaye and Bartholdi surfaced with a great fanfare. A so-called French American Union was established (with Laboulaye at the head of the French side) to raise funds on both sides of the Atlantic and coordinate publicity and other matters. Public announcements began late in 1874, reached a climax with a festive banquet at the Hotel du Louvre on 6 November 1875, less than a month before the work of the republicans was accomplished and the constitutional assembly dissolved. The banquet was attended not only by an honour roll of the centre-left, but also by more conservative members of the executive. That the project met with acceptance from such a wide range of the political spectrum forms part of our picture of the operations of the liberals, who, as we have seen, had judiciously concentrated on the means of gathering France around them. Shrewd observers of this scene might have perceived that the strategy of the promoters included an ovasive tactic concerning the genesis of the programme of the monument. In complementary disclaimers, Laboulaye attributed the idea to Bartholdi's imagination.

Why not these erect the colossal in Paris? After seeing her set up at the Parisian workshop before shipment to New York in 1885 Parisians certainly regretted having to relinquish her; and shortly afterwards a copy at a quarter-scale was erected in the Ile des Cygnes downstream from the Eiffel Tower. But to have put the question to Liberty's patrons of 1875 would have been to misunderstand both the situation and the methods. Liberty's triumph was only a tentative one; a reversal of events was always possible and indeed, as we have already noted, was soon to be attempted and no more than one occasion. A colossal Liberty in Paris would, of course, have been hypocritical politically. It might also, like the statue de Chambrond's *fleur-de-lis*, have been just a little too much for the France of those years to bear. But the temporary erection of the statue in Paris—bringing to mind the great tradition of France of extravagant and outsized festive decoration and statuary—would make a point without peril; and from its prominent permanent site across the Atlantic it would continue to be felt. Liberty was thus more than an exile or expatriate; she was also an omniservant. In fact—particularly when seen against the width of her support in France and the eventual assistance of the French state, which contributed a naval vessel for her shipment to New York in 1885—Liberty appears as part of a diffuse but strong historical phenomenon: the contemporary tendency of France to project herself abroad—to export herself, as it were.

This extract is from *The Statue of Liberty* by Marvin Trachtenberg which was published by Allen Lane on February 26 at £8. © Marvin Trachtenberg, 1976.



Liberty's hand and torch, Philadelphia Centennial, 1876.

the unveiling only drenched any doubt below on the long formation of gold waited he head of the Parisian sentimental through the overlooking of New recalled the ars earlier's romance d began. It 1871 that him a gran-vision. ly realized, to make more than the spontaneous generosity of the French nation, as its commonly believed. He was sent to America in 1871 as the agent of a small group of activists. Its French intellectuals of moderate republicanism stamp who had something more specific in mind than international cordiality. Edouard-Rodé Lefebvre do Laboulaye (1811-83) was the principal figure in this circle. It was at his dinner table that the project for the Statue of Liberty was first discussed and his may well be considered its father. Laboulaye's career provides an easily identifiable thread running through the tangled skein of French politics in the last years of the Second Empire and the first of the Third Republic. An internationally distinguished jurist, he had been since 1849 Professor of Comparative Legislation at the Collège de France where his wit and imagination, no less than his strong republican convictions, made him a popular lecturer. His political outlook led him, early in his career, to the study of the great master exemplar of republicanism, the United States. And after the death of de Tocqueville in 1859 he emerged as the leading French authority on American constitutional history. A prolific writer, he published a three-volume *Histoire des États-Unis* (1855-66), and a satirical sketch about Napoleon suddenly transported into an ongoing New York existence, *Paris in America* (1863), besides numerous tracts and articles which included a plea for the cause of the Union against the South, first published in the *Journal des Débats* in 1862, translated into English and frequently reprinted in America. Laboulaye was a leading practitioner of the use of the American example to criticize home policy. Of his major

works, mainly written under the censorship of the Second Empire, none was of purely scholarly motivation. All of them involved some degree of political intent and nearly all had the same theme, whether cast as a *History of the United States*—written with the avowed purpose of discovering the "durable conditions of liberty" and prescribing as a great revolutionary lesson for Napoleon but "inspiring" who recoiled the world with Liberty—or as *Paris in America*, his still amusing satire of French attitudes to this American, especially liberty. Thus there is no reason to doubt the inner truth of Bartholdi's account (although written for fund-raising purposes in 1885) of the origins of the Statue of Liberty in a discussion "about America" at Laboulaye's dinner table at his estate at Clagny (near Versailles) in 1865. Bartholdi was included in the gathering, attended by a number of his eventual backers, probably as a result of a portrait commission. He reports that after dinner the question of gratitude between nations arose, and that Laboulaye distinguished between the play of power politics in most international relations, such as those between France and Italy, and the "wholly different thing in the case of other nations or peoples with whom there was a genuine flow of sympathy, caused, it might be, by experiences common to the two nations, or by the influence of certain feelings which served as a bond of union." Such was manifestly the case of the United States and France, he continued. Indeed, he went on to say that "if a monument were to be built in America as a memorial to... independence, I should think it very natural if it were built by united effort, if it were a common work of both nations."

mosts were overshadowed by emotions concerning national affairs. If any strong feelings were projected abroad, it was hatred of enemies. Moreover, during the Civil War, the French government had exploited the American inability to respond to the Mexican venture of Maximilian. Yet the old myth of alliance proved enduring: at least there remained enough good will and attachment to make the scheme of a common Franco-American monument seem workable to Laboulaye and his colleagues, particularly if their own efforts could bring about the initial gift across the sea. The monument as propaganda, particularly prevalent in France during and after the Revolution, was as old as the pyramids; but here for once it was to serve the establishment but the opposition. The idealistic, and rather fervent tone of Laboulaye's gathering—as described by Bartholdi—was characteristic not only of the generation of men at it, but, with respect to America, particularly of the year 1865. The assassination of Lincoln, following on the triumph of the Republic and hopes, produced an outpouring of French sentiment, so less, it seems, than a mass catharsis. These feelings are recorded in numerous letters sent to the American representative in Paris, Bigelow, who was to become an important intermediary in the communications of the statue organizers) from all parts of France, and from Frenchmen in all walks of life although principally from republicans and liberal monarchists. But ideas were soon to be overtaken by events in France. The country had been invaded, defeated, humiliated by Prussia. In February 1871 the French elected a provisional assembly to make peace terms and to determine a permanent form of government. From the overwhelmingly conservative initial composition of this body it would have seemed that a return to some form of kingship was in store for France—

as in the late 1790s, 1815, 1830 and 1853. But the conservatives were bitterly divided between themselves and there were two contenders for the crown, the Bourbon comte de Chambord and the Orleanist comte de Paris. For a short while it seemed that a compromise might be reached by giving the crown first to the comte de Chambord (grandson of Charles X) who had no heir and from whom it could then pass to the more politically aggressive comte de Paris. In the event, however, the comte de Chambord, though he paid lip-service to some constitutional ideas, refused to accept the Tricolor (in place of the Bourbon *fleur-de-lis*) as the national flag, either in 1871 or, decisively, in 1873 when the monarchist cause was finally lost. It was the highly charged French political atmosphere of 1871 that the idea of the Statue of Liberty—first became a serious possibility. The moderate republicans saw that every possible means was needed to advance their cause. What better way to increase the chances of their ultimate victory than by fortifying the republic's image of France? And what better means was there to accomplish this than with a truly grandiose monument linking the history and destiny of France with the great modern republican state, the America that had not only triumphed over its internal enemies but was ascendant in every sphere, already marked to be one of the great world powers? If the monarchists had lost their cause by adherence to a flag, the republicans might succeed with the help of a weightier symbol. Laboulaye had been grooming Bartholdi for this task since 1855. Bartholdi's letters to his mother in December 1859 contain cryptic references to "my father's statue" and speak of his hopes concerning "this project". Already in June 1870, when the regime of Napoleon III was faltering, an exploratory trip to America was proposed, as Bartholdi indicates in a letter to his mother (June 2) "concerning the dream of America... In those months

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## Dick Wellstood Seven Dials

The great thing about the pre-war piano traditions, known to jazz historians as stride piano, which produced Fats Waller, James P. Johnson, Earl Hines and Art Tatum, is that it probably led to the finest flowering of solo improvising since Beethoven's day.

The sad thing about it is that its main survival today comes in the bastardized form of pub piano and that Waller's glorious two-fisted artistry is known to most people in the shape of bam-fisted amateurism. It is as if the vast majority knew about Mantovani and had never heard of Mozart.

Luckily, there are still a few pianists who are dedicated, nimble and sensitive enough to preserve the old tradition alive, and Dick Wellstood is about the best of them. The ever-enterprising Jazz Centre Society presented him at the Seven Dials in Shelton Street, a congenial haunt enhanced by the presence of Young's bitter beer, and he did them proud.

He plays his vast repertoire with such ease, with such a nonchalant disposition of the hands that the unalerted listener might feel nothing was happening. In fact he is thinking like lightning the whole time and it is difficult to spin a moment when his fingers do not follow suit.

He is not so much a musical archaeologist, more a one-man repertory company dedicated to reinterpreting the works of Ellington, Waller, Joplin, Johnson and many others in a totally individual manner. If this were a fair and just society he would be on television every other night and a household name. As it is, he is only here

As if that were not enough, the relief band was led by Bruce Turner, who looks increasingly like Spike Milligan and plays increasingly like one of the best alto saxophonists ever to come out of Britain.

His set took time to warm up, but by the end he was well into his stride and playing like a man possessed, with one of the warmest yet shrewdest tones in jazz. All in all, one feels sorry for the seven million-odd Londoners who could not make it to the Seveo Dials.

**LPO/Pritchard**  
**Festival Hall**

### Stephen Walsh

To the best of my knowledge, Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto is almost alone in the standard repertoire in still suffering regular, and apparently more or less traditional cuts. On Thursday Henryk Szeryng performed

his surgery only on the finale, which is certainly a well-padded movement; if not more so than several others one could name, in works which could be cut only at risk of public lynching. But he left less drastic marks on the Concertos, too, taking

passages up an octave and ignoring fairly clear rubato directions in the score. All that with the most winning smile and, of course, much exquisite playing, though the performance was not, *it toto*, an exciting one. Needless to say, it was cheered to the rafters, almost to

the point where Szeryng might have offered an encore, perhaps a paste-up of the bars left out of the main performance. Much more coolly received was John Pritchard's stately account of Strauss's *Don Juan*, a well-proportioned and collected performance but about as thrilling as a set of mixed doubles.

striving, in the later stages, for gratuitous excitement the orchestra fell into untypically strident mood. But the long oboe solo was beautifully played by Roger Winfield in a style perhaps more pastoral than erotic, while on the other side of the net Rodney Friend

The symphony was Walton's second, a work which certainly could stand a cut or two, I would suggest the last two movements. The brilliant but harmonically static first movement is entirely self-contained and needs, like the Mechan-

cal's play, no excuse. The grandiose final Passacaglia and Fugue deserve scrappy playing, and got it, whereas the swift and elusive flights of the first movement were effortlessly taken.

in aid of the Fun Palace Trust (the Stratford Fair Project which provides leisure and educational facilities for young people in the locality) will be John Zaradin, guitar, with Colin Billham (bass) and Tim Barry (percussion) on Sunday at 7.30, and a pop concert entitled

run **Police Rock 1**, on February 22, with The Donna Gillespie Band, Richard ("Rocky Horror") O'Brien, Luis Cabelero, "Jo Cookie" (a new group), Marcus Shields, Mike Molloy, and a rock ballet based on Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells, with choreography by Arlene Phillips. *London, Aug.*

■ The Bristol Old Vic production of *Old Flames*, E. A. Whitehead's fourth play to be presented in London, will open at the Arts Theatre on Feb-

February 19. A modern play of sexual manners—an intimate supper on his girlfriend's houseboat becomes an exciting and macabre dinner-party for Edward when several unexpected guests arrive. The play is directed by Jonathan Fels and the cast consists of Carr

Bond, Judy Cornwall, Amy  
Dyson, Earbara Ewing and  
Katherine Fahy.











the final triumphs and  
of the Winter Olympi-  
are being covered by  
Gazetted sports and  
ation manager will put on  
track suits against the  
and start running towards  
many of the public are  
to see as an almost cer-  
double gold medal goal in  
of Montreal Olympic athletics  
July.

Much remains to be settled, for members of the Opposition Front Bench—like the ranks behind them—are not all in agreement. Over electoral reform, for example, Mr. Macdonald (aspirant for the post of Mr. Douglas Hurd (in favour). On the economy, Mr. Maudling is not at one with Sir Keith Joseph. Mr. White-law, her deputy, differs from Mrs Thatcher over capital punishment. There are divisions on devolution.

Thus the debate continues inside the Shadow Cabinet and elsewhere. There is nothing wrong with that. On the contrary, it is a sign of a party of principle rather than dogmatic dogma. Free and informed discussion of great issues cannot be a bad basis for the formulation of policy. If the Conservatives were to lose yet another election (and it would be their fifth defeat in recent years) they might be sunk for ever—and a day. The stake is not too high for something but the most serious and thoroughgoing examination of the policies on which they will hope to return to office under Mrs Thatcher.

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While the final triumphs and failures of the Winter Olympics are being recorded next week, Gateshead's sports and recreation manager will put on three track suits against the cold and start running towards what many of the public are bound to see as an almost certain double gold medal at the next Moscow Olympic athletics meet.

Brandy Foster takes the hurdle of public expectancy almost without breaking stride. "Everyone's already getting wrapped up on the Olympics and how Britain will do. But if you look it in it in pure sports terms, I'm not a favourite at all. Britain's never won either the Olympic 5,000 or 10,000 metres. In fact I'm not worried about Fred Bloggs, on the docks in Southampton, betting on his mate 100 to 1 I'll win. That doesn't affect me. It's the other way round—see in Gateshead who matted."

Gateshead, the chirpy neighbour of Newcastle, has become synonymous with Foster as a sprinter. The 30-year-old (twice married) has broken the 30-second barrier in the 100 metres.

again to run hard with the rest of the lads."

He has worked out, more less by himself, the periods of training. Up to end of March he will be beating up his weekly mileage of 60 to over 100. The comped breaks, which is all races so early in the year, will be the local road races, the National Road Mills, the Italian road races in Italy, perhaps the Eng cross-country championship March 13 at Leicester and national road relay at St Coldfield in April. In May will spend between two three weeks at high altitudes probably at St Moritz. He not only has the usual psychological or physiological but he expects feel better, and race better after it. His first true goal he the British Olympic trial Crystal Palace on June 5 12.

The hardest task now, from the bitter weather bates it when I go out run just like a commuter set off for his morning train."

# Up to their necks in muck and bullets

pious. Here is a typical extract from August 1915:

"The enemy in enormously strong numbers occupied some strong positions, and simply could not be turned out. They were behind every small ridge and filled up the crevices of which there was an abundance. We had continually had encounters with them in a casual sort of way but now it had been determined to shift the attack to these. The enemy had a few blue-grey uniforms and one night just after we had piped down and settled ourselves for the night routine of the trenches they made an attack. We repulsed them with our rifles and bayonets. A monkey was well up now and as soon as daylight appeared we made a determined counter attack. It was no end of a stiff do. Blood, blood everywhere. Even splashes of it on my face. The enemy was well, well, well, looked an object indeed. I know too it was: Summer time and hy now the sun had risen so that streams of perspiration rolled from us. We took no prisoners and the slaughter was really terrible. From as far as the eye could see there appeared to take our special attention; and so the slaughter continued. We had at last cleared the place except for sundry stragglers who would not doubt be seen off later. We had killed, we were hundreds of the hated enemy."

Bur Foster, his ebullient coach. But Stan Long, and other members of the local Harriers, are quick to point out that Jack was not a runner known as "The Gateshead Clipper". The "Gateshead Clipper", two of the world's fastest times for sprints, were three and six miles in the 1860s. As Long says, "There's always been a few runners around these parts."

Having lived through hard times in the past, Gateshead is not likely to get into a television competition about its Foster of excitement. About Foster of Bren", as they nicknamed him, has made pure the temperature is kept low. "I've talked over local television and radio about the odds. They've seen me on the telly, and I've met Dickson of New Zealand, so they've learned to compare it with the ups and downs in football. So I'll leave Gateshead and head on to Montreal and back and back. I've still got food to eat, a job to do, and my friends. Win or lose, it wouldn't be wrong if it was any different."

Foster's wife, Susan, is an obnoxious to see and of permanence. They met at SUSSEX University when he was reading chemistry and she economics. Susan often watches him race, keeping deliberately close, showing her tension when she lights a cigarette. For all their closeness, playing Scrabble

any. You know, the coming of the bomb straight and its arms. You don't recall bard it was, earlier on, to away from the others. Or hard the training was or hard.

at 28, a former B schools 44 yards run, talented footballer who offered a trial with St. land, fifth over 1,500 men, times handicapped by injuries. Foster is beginning know himself as an at . His training diaries tell something, too. "They us be old men, but I'm a good but now it's an uire type disc diary, c. 75p from Boots, which you what the time is i Francisco, Buenos Aires New York.

to non-sense at also applies to a recent holiday in South A. "Great place to live, but for me. They've got big lems. No, I'm not a po enunch. I pulled out against the best and Mamabola happens to be. But I also thought would feel if I ran in a white shirt, and I might race in Africa. But not those national multi-racial they have—they're ju monument to apartheid

June 15, 1970, he was again arrested, this time charged with planning to escape from the country by hijacking an aircraft, and sentenced to 10 years of forced labor.

Penson has been sustained by his involvement in art and the courageous help of friends, who have supplied him with working materials, paint, who, for the most part, have now left the country. One of his friends wrote asking for "reproductions of paintings, drawings, photographs — send me everything, and please add the name of the painter and address about him". His work reveals this is a man of the world, of modern art and the breadth of his influences—Chagall, Picasso, Jawlensky and Roualt; and Cubism and Constructivism.

The difference between images of freedom and images of incarceration is immediately recognizable. On the one hand, the years between his two sentences, the sunny, tranquil landscapes, studies of the female nude, a vigorous game of hockey, and an expected charming series of Jewish marriage. In contrast are the sombre, tragic images of incarceration, realistic compositions of prison buildings, views from barred windows, as well as surrealist fantastic based on nostalgia and desire.

Penson is fortunate in his talent, through which he can express with his scenery that he has not been broken—so far.

"We still preserved our Fire until we came within Half Gun Shot of them when we engaged with French 80 canonaded the Admiral Villeneuve after an Hours severe and Heavy Fire her Main and Mizzen Mast went close by the Board and in Less than Half an hour we shot away her Foremast, when she struck and dropp'd astern the Coquerer 74 took possession of her. Ten minutes had scarce claps'd when the Spanish Admiral third in Command Juan Tringada in a Fourth Rate Ship came up and engaged us after Half an Hours Heavy Canonading her

gave them three cheers, which was followed by the Conqueror astern of us which I think greatly daunted them as their Fire Slackened and we could plainly perceive them running about in great confusion."

John Brown's diary together with his hosum's pipe and his medal are being sold on behalf of a private owner by Phillips

the First World War diaries of Private Horace Bruckshaw of the Royal Marines, and will sell them in London on February 17. Bruckshaw fought in the front foxhole of the bloodiest beach of the Gallipoli campaign, and was then killed on the Western Front in 1917 at the age of 25. He kept a detailed diary in pencil in

Such rare diaries from the men in the front trench, though artless and illiterate melodramatic and sometimes mistaken about the overall pattern of the battle, get closer to what the bloody battle was like for participants than cool memoirs recollections in tranquility from headquarters far behind the lines.

garrison in the evenings, listening together to music. Foster firmly declines to bring in the sweeping strings. Dryly, he remarks "I wouldn't like people to think all you've got to do, to be a good runner, is to get married."

For all the security of his north-eastern stronghold, he knows that, in the end, he has

like we have in Gateshead. Foster gets most about the national obsession at moments when uninitiated interviewer him if Montreal will be first Games. "Hell, I fifth in Munich and if I ran again I'd be proud of. But my proudest moment winning a cross-country for English Universities."

## Volga experiments with caviar

From Astrakhan, hub of the Soviet caviar industry, comes good news for gourmets. The Scientific Institute for the Study of Caspian Sturgeon Resources located in Astrakhan has estimated that the Caspian sturgeon population at over two hundred million, roughly up to the level in the thirties, before the subsequent sharp decline. Several factors contributed to the decline: the damming of the tributaries of the landlocked sea was sharply curtailed by the construction of the hydro-electric power stations and diversion of water into irrigation canals; pollution of the Caspian's level by more than 10 metres and diminishing its surface from 442,000 square kilometres to 371,000. Offshore feeding grounds were also destroyed. The fish was barred from their immemorial spawning grounds upstream by the power plant dams. Further heavy toll was exacted by overfishing and pollution by wastes from the towns, preventing the endangered sturgeon from joining the dode was

to limit the catch by forbidding sturgeon fishing on the open sea and in the rivers where they go to spawn. The second was to reduce pollution. In 1968 the government authorized a program to reduce pollution in the Volga and Ural river basins by unprocessed effluents. This has led to extensive installation of filtering and recycling systems. The main oil ports of the Caspian were also ordered to plan for intake and filtration of sludge. In offshore oil fields provisions were made for preventing the spilling of oil into the sea and the escape of oil from the seabed.

The Soviet Union also enlisted the cooperation of Persia, which owns the southern end of the Caspian, and Iraq, which has about 100,000 tons of caviar, almost all for export, including a considerable portion to the Soviet Union, as well as to western Europe and the United States. The Soviet Union stresses a religious dietary taboo against fish without scales.

Long range projects are now under consideration call for doubling the Caspian's present annual water supply of 35,000 cubic kilometers. The first step would be to tap about 50,000 km<sup>3</sup> of water from the Volga River which empties into the Arctic Ocean and reversing the flow of this water outward into the Kama River and into the Volga. A further project involves diverting the outflow from Lake Onega and several other lakes in north-east Russia southwards to the Volga which would thereby receive an additional fifteen million cubic kilometers of water annually.

This is all in the future. Meantime to compensate for the loss of the sturgeon's ancestral upstream spawning grounds, 12 fish hatcheries are functioning at locations on the coast and inside the mouths of the Volga, Ural and Kura rivers. At present they produce 100 tons of sturgeon annually. In 1970, with Soviet technical assistance, a hatchery

was set up in Persia on a tributary of the Tigris, near the town of Resht. It now supplies five million fingerlings annually.

The present aim is not only to hatch more sturgeon artificially but to increase the number of fish suitable for commercial use. Although the sturgeon population is now up to the level of the thirties, about 80 per cent are immature. The largest breed, Beluga (*Huso*), is now being raised to a commercial weight. The medium-sized *Osyotr* (*acipenser*) grows up to 18 years. The smallest breed, Stetler, less than five years.

The experts claim that the Caspian can easily sustain double the present 200,000,000 sturgeon population and that in a few times' time the present annual catch of under 100,000,000 can be raised to more than 40,000. The cavail and supply should increase in proportion.

Edmund Stevens



**Brenden Foster** : building up his

## Going back to the Middle Ages to revive the international art market

The art market's slow but steady recovery during the past year from the worst collapse since the 1930s has underlined how universal (across income brackets and age groups) and international the interest in art and antiquities has become. The market has started in the summer of 1974 and by Christmas prices had stumbled in nearly every field, but Christmas proved to be the low point of the curve and after only six months of recession the recovery began, step by step.

The new art market which is rising out of the ashes of the old one is, not surprisingly, different. The element of purely financial speculation which led to a crazy spiral in prices during 1973-74 has disappeared. There is still a substantial element of investment buying but it is a long term affair, a hedge against inflation and currency devaluations. Sterling prices of art and antiques have increased in most fields over the past year—though rarely by more than the amount the sterling has slipped against its major currencies.

The eras of the art market are changing. These dramatic

price spirals during the 1973-74 boom were the worst hit by the collapse, and prices are still far below their boomtime levels. This includes twentieth-century painting, some Chinese ceramics, most English painting, some Chinese bronzes. A wide range of areas are now being singled out for special interest, particularly those that reflect German, Swiss or Middle Eastern taste.

On one hand this is demonstrated by the revival of interest in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, somewhat at the expense of the baroque, rococo and eighteenth century in general (although the latter is still another booming prices for another decorative items of the nineteenth and twentieth century (Middle East taste). Spiralling carpet prices also reflect Middle East taste.

Within England itself, big money seems to have retired temporarily from the art market with its fingers a trifle singed. Small money, however, is getting ever more deeply involved. Philistine auctioneers report a striking increase in the number of specialized and very knowledgeable collectors who buy at auction, by-passing

dealers; they are quite prepared to back their knowledge against the market to the tune of a few hundred pounds though they tend to stop short around the £250 mark. The market is thus unusually difficult to generalize about the market; there are so many different types of pressure and shifts in taste at work. Some idea of this can be given by looking separately at major collecting areas.

Impressionism, post-impressionism, and twentieth century painting is still the area where you are liable to spend the most money acquiring a single item. It was hit particularly by the 1974 recession and reached its absolute low in the spring of 1975. The very best paintings are commanding prices, for example, the Picasso self-portrait sold in December at Christie's for £283,500, but the middle range is difficult with fewer buyers around. It has always been difficult to match dealers' prices at auction for twentieth century paintings, especially the American school; it is now more difficult than *ever* and little is turning up even in the sale room. The brief boom in modern Bri-

ish paintings are also definitely over, apart from a few internationally recognized artists. Here again owners are steering clear of the safe room.

The market in Old Masters is still another matter; things have seldom been so good. Decorative Dutch and Flemish paintings of the seventeenth century are in strong demand, apparently from both Continental Europe and the Middle East. The Spanish have recently emerged as strong buyers, and anything Spanish sells particularly well. German buyers seem interested in early paintings (fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries); they put the German school first, the Flemish second and the Italians third but all are going up in price. The American museum interest in the Italian nineteenth century seems to have become muted and French eighteenth century works can still prove difficult to sell.

So far as the nineteenth century goes, the English and Dutch schools took a hard knock 1970, but those who are selling again cannot reach the price levels of two years ago. In contrast, the German, Austrian, and Swedish

and French schools are keenly sought by their respective nationals.

**Furniture:** Demand for old furniture clearly exceeds supply in Continental Europe, and England, still the chief source, has lost much of its market. Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and other exotic furniture is in demand, but the Chinese, Indian, and Dutch dealers are particularly active-looking especially for oak and early walnut. Every European country is particularly interested in its own styles and all Continental furniture is selling well, especially the German, well, and Spanish.

**French furniture** which generally enjoys a rather uneven market this side of the Channel is also in good demand. Grand English furniture is perhaps currently the most difficult to sell; the small moosey English style, however, is popular but flops unobscurely. The new wave of satinwood in restrained taste suffers from the shortage of rich English buyers. The top of the market in all European furniture is boosted by the number of Arabs who have come to the states, homes in Europe and wish to decorate them in traditional taste.

**Corpsets**, which are generally sold with furniture, are quite

another affair. Almost every type of Oriental carpet in good condition is going steeply upwards in price—with silk carpets; i.e. the lead. The only difficulty is that the market on the market; rugs under £200 are in indifferent condition, are difficult to sell.

Ceramics: Two years of unprecedented boom in the Chinese porcelain market was finished off by the Portuguese revolution in 1974; the top Portuguese buyer, withdrawn from the market, leaving a vacuum. For some months nobody knew the value of anything but by the early months of 1975 it had settled down to a new level of prices and the recovery has progressed steadily from there.

The finest pieces tend to find buyers in Hongkong and Japan, but the bulk of the market is for minor decorative pieces in Europe. Chinese jades and bronzes were much less affected and continue to creep up in price.

So far as Continental European porcelain is concerned, the market is very strong (note figures) for the wares from the work of German factories, particularly sought after; the work of minor, short-lived factories are, even more popular

than Meissen. This applies equally to Austrian and Swiss porcelain. There is also a general international demand for French and Italian pieces. English porcelain, which rose in value during the 1973-74 boom is still suffering a bit of a setback with occasional big prices for rarities.

Conventional pottery is recording the biggest price rises of the whole ceramic industry. Pottery has probably doubled in value over the past year. Its slight price advance in 1974 was due to primitive old world look in line with the current shift in taste; even English Delftware has risen in value by 3 to 50 per cent over the past year. Italian majolica is sought after by both Italians and Germans, and prices, particularly for minor pieces, have gone through the roof in recent months.

Glass has been relatively unaffected by the recent pattern of boom and recession: this is a field mainly patronized by very collectors. The value of English glass has been rising steadily since about 1970 after a dramatic jump in the late 1960s. The glass, however, been a sudden wave of prices for Continental glass.

is the work mainly of  
three German dealers  
became apparent  
October, 1974, sale in  
The accent is on Ven  
other early European  
again a shift in taste  
the Renaissance and  
military styles.  
Silver: English silver  
boom in the late silver  
crash in 1969; the  
leaders of the peri  
eighth century coddle  
coffee pots are still  
to 1958 price levels.  
wise prices have  
steadily since then  
the past five years  
advance has been in  
of Continental sil  
torian silver and s  
twentieth century  
quality have also  
substantially in price.  
All in all the mar  
to be turning around  
long faces are grow  
shorter. The market  
for the eager to reo  
ing the goods to see  
generally unwilli  
their treasures in t  
cially unsettled times





## IS PROVOKED BY RUSSIA'S CAN AMBITIONS

of four. African discuss Angola as another war-crisis in southern Africa. It is not the gold that worries the MPLA government, but the fact that the MPLA still hope to accommodate A and Unitas will government of rather than of an ideologically committed, while Zaire is that its protégé, is collapsed under a Russian-made whatever government, Angola will be an

es them, and their use of world politics by their intense Russia's role in central part in the ch the twenty-year colonization has led to the conflict of black and white in African nationalism. The early ermine the choices concerned later on, understandable that Dr. Kaunda, Dr. Machel, Sir want to make certain some contraindents. It should be tant to the western especially to the that one powerful ne should not be l all the shots.

g events  
less than Paris, must under- Angola is not an re patch of Africa urels outsiders y inefficacally could be said of 8-70. A conflict is at will affect the African affairs from the Cape. Congress keeping out of resigning from any this much larger which many vital rests are bound up. assumed that leaders ots Kaunda and anxious to get nce, personnel and expeditionary force la as quickly as latter who rules in ither Presidents Machel are equally wear Russian aid t stages-on the

lection  
topher Mayhew  
irm all-party support ions to the European 1978: this is splen a nightmarish pro- opened up by the the Conservatives' ittee. (The Times) r delimiting the com- parency the wretched- missions are to be carve up the United 67 brand new com- past-the-post system- on is to be divided- tending? It is to break all records as arbitrary, contentious gureaucracy. Why simply let London, les, Ulster and the re be individual con- ach electing several proportional represen- uld be simpler, fairer- ural- tion that this—unlike sosal—would give the e chance of being in the European Par- not believe that any European", of any support the effective ent of five million 1 voters.

Indian art  
dith Small Nash  
d reading about the which will take place al Maritime Museum ile, January 30) and d to seeing the show. hose of us who have for the past two years re Arts Council of's bicentenary exhibit, cles, 2,000 years of dian Art", which will Hayward Gallery in ld think it slightly par- the Greenwich ex- tain's main commemo- bicentenary", and exhibit will contain the finest American s from over 80 tribes, st prehistory through y time, with film, photo-

graphs and pertinent documentation. We expect it to be the most major exhibit of native American art ever to be shown in Europe. Certainly, for anyone interested in the history of the North American continent, these two fine exhibits will be of great value. — the one from a European viewpoint and the other from that of the native American Indians.  
Yours faithfully,  
JUDITH NASH, Adviser,  
The Arts Council of Great Britain  
Sacred Circles Exhibit,  
18 Harker Street, SW3,  
January 30.

Children at risk  
From Mrs Margaret Wynn  
Sir, Mr Peter Bottomley (January 31) rightly draws attention to the French postnatal allowances. It was, however, never the French purpose in linking first family allowances, and subsequently postnatal allowances with medical examinations only to discover children at risk. A committee appointed to advise the services for children to be provided in the French 6th Plan recommended that "the prevention of childhood handicap should be the first consideration in all medical and social action on behalf of children".  
The French have shown that the eventual costs of neglecting handicap or neglecting the health of very young children are formidable and that the benefits from early prevention or early diagnosis and treatment much exceed the costs.  
Yours sincerely,  
MARGARET WYNN,  
9 View Road, NE,  
January 31.

Fish farming  
From Professor R. A. Morton  
Sir, Mr Geoffrey Jellicoe pleaded (January 26) for a national fish farm policy at a cost "no more than that given to Chrysler" with a possible return of a £500m saving on food imports as a whole. He described the fishery industry, "archaic, aggressive, costly, wasteful and dangerous method of obtaining only a tiny proportion of our food".  
His views are perhaps misleading on two counts. First, he exaggerates the presently foreseeable profitability of marine fish farming and,

Mr Smith, it seems can let the talks with Mr Nkomo languish. The chances of any advance to majority rule" reads as the crisis deepens, all the advantage of the militant who want war and will invoke the promise of aid if peaceful talks fail. Similarly in South Africa security will be tightened and police repression increased. The mild relaxations of apartheid which have occurred will end, perhaps be reversed, nor will South West Africa be prepared for independence. Such developments cannot but make the choice for the United States and Britain the more difficult, and their policies the more assailable from the left and from African militants.

Black Champion  
Those who take Russia's moves unconcernedly can point to Russia's discomfitures elsewhere in Africa—in Egypt for example, in Guinea or in Uganda. But Russia has learned from these setbacks the development of spheres of influence, and is better placed throughout Africa, with better contacts at every level, than is understood. Championing the struggle against apartheid and racism offers a far more promising opening. The risk of being kicked out of Angola with an address of thanks is one that the Russians can cheerfully take, especially as they are being paid for their arms with western businessmen's money, from Cabindan oil or otherwise. If Zaire and Zambia continue to keep Unitas in the influence in Angola's state apparatus will increase, the Cubans will get much useful campaigning experience, and the need for Russia to have "temporary" naval facilities will be the more.

Unstable future  
Many Africans would count this progression of Russian policy more disastrous than an extended period of coexistence with white South Africa. Moreover, it will be argued that the disorganization and corruption of many African states will frustrate over-ambitious Russian plans. South Africa may therefore survive comfortably even without its former huffer states, at the cost of perhaps endemic border guerrilla war. But even this outcome would not indefinitely produce stability, and it would be disastrous for African welfare. This is still Mr Vorster's "alternative" to "ghastly" to contemplate "in comparison with the devils he tried to secure and which it is in Russia's interest to frustrate."

Is 'The Times' fair to the Arab lobby?  
From Mr Kurt Metzger  
Sir, I did not intend to contribute to the discussion on the "Zionism is racism" resolution, but I am interested by both your leader and the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding thesis (February 5) that you were not impartial.  
I have also sometimes felt aggrieved that you have not published letters of mine, but I would suggest that sometimes this was because they were either too long for publication or too complex for the general public.  
May I, however, put the very simple point that the "Zionism is racism" proposition is, in itself, a very complex one? Mr Adams—whom I have always found most courteous in correspondence—is guilty of a fallacy when he thinks that such a resolution can result only in "Zionist" or "anti-Zionist" letters.  
The following propositions are neither Zionist nor anti-Zionist, but may help to enlighten your readers as to the factual content:  
(1) Zionism is, in a sense, an essential part of historic Judaism.  
(2) In that historic sense, however, King Feisal of Saudi Arabia was a Zionist. He might well have said, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget her cunning."  
(3) The Jews are not a race (cf. for example, the Encyclopedia Britannica review of blood groups).  
(4) Judaism, as a religion, has had a racial overtone lacking in Islam because of the so-called "laws of Ezra" (which any reader of the Bible can look up) since about 400 BC.  
(5) The purpose of Judaism, however, as is equally evident by reading the book of Isaiah, transcends the racial.

Pornography: risk of allowing unrestrained growth  
From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge  
Sir, The logical deduction from Dr Brian A. Richards's letter (February 5) would seem to be that in countries like Denmark and Sweden, not to mention California, where pornography is plentiful, unrestrained and cheap, a state of fertility exists untroubled by sexual strain and abnormalities. This is so evidently not the case that Dr Richards's whole argument, as it seems to me, falls to the ground. It would be like saying that people with autistic impulses find relief in spectacles of violence, so Spadolni may be considered well ahead of backward countries like ours which frown on bull-fighting.  
If the attitude taken in your excellent leading article is, as Dr Richards suggests, an indication of a "sad personal sexual disturbance", then you are in good company—via every reputable Christian writer on the subject from the Apostle Paul to C. S. Lewis. According to Dr Richards, a St Francis was in need of his ministrations, a Marquis de Sade in good shape—which, as Euclid says, is absurd. In the Epistle to the Romans it is written that he is carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded life and peace. It is a proposition that has stood the test of 19 centuries of Christendom. On the basis of it, pornography, which Dr Richards is so anxious to dispense, and which is by its nature and purpose conducive to carnal-mindedness, is likewise conducive to death.  
May I wholeheartedly endorse Mr Alan Kippax's admirably cogent statement of the Christian position in this matter.  
Yours, etc.,  
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE,  
Robertsbridge,  
Sussex,  
February 5.

From Canon Eric Evans  
Sir, In his article on the risks of allowing pornography to grow unchecked (February 3) William Sargent says that the "good Christians create so much trouble for everybody... by trying to speak for the whole of the Christian majority". Christians (whether good or not) would like to think that we speak for the majority, and sometimes we do, but quite irrespective of that, Christians must speak as their consciences direct and according to their interpretation of the precepts of the New Testament. The Church's proclamation of the truth, as she believes it to be, in no way depends on majorities or minorities. Your vox populi vox Dei is not Christian Doctrine!  
Christians believe that pornography not only divorces sex from love, often replacing it with cruelty, but also corrupts us into thinking that this does not matter. However, quite apart from what Christians say, the problems posed by pornography would seem to be of a human and women since the dawn of civilization have had to wrestle with the issues of good and evil and with what uplifts or debases the human spirit.  
Over 250 years before Christ Plato advised good men not to act the parts of bad characters in drama for fear of corrupting their own personalities. In more recent times the once very liberal Dr Spock in his later writings (Dance and Indecent, 1970) declared that he saw "futility in his early efforts if 'children when grown find life disillusioning because the society they inherit is confused about sex and brutality and seems oblivious to the loving and creative potentialities of our species'.  
Lord Clark in his Civilization reminds us that it is lack of confidence more than anything that kills

From Mr Bernard Silver  
Sir, Your leader about the letter of complaint written to the Council of Advancement of Arab-British Understanding takes the matter far too seriously. But the occupation of 384 column inches in print of the letter should help to redress the balance.  
I was going to ask you to print this to very tiny type in order to save valuable inches but we must think of those with bad eyesight. The 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch card is worth about £78.75 according to The Times advertising rate card and is unlikely to dent the Council's propaganda budget.  
I could legitimately complain that my pile of rejection slips from you is higher than either Mr Adams's or Mr Reddaway's, or that you permit them to address you as Dear Mr Rees-Mogg while I have to content myself with Sir. Surely the real point is that it is worth of argument which is more valid than length.  
Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD SILVER,  
24 Berkeley Court,  
Baker Street, NW1,  
February 5.

From Mr A. L. Shave  
Sir, You ask in your Editorial of February 5 'Is The Times fair to the Arab lobby?' Undoubtedly, yes.  
It's the old story. If you cannot win the game by scoring goals—blame the referee. It is inevitable that in the selection of the published some one is going to be disappointed but I would have thought that the writers of those letters were the last sort of people to express an unbiased opinion upon their respective merits.  
Judging by the contents of your readers' columns over many years, most readers would I think agree that you have clearly endeavoured to hold a balance between the many contestants for space and had

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Pornography: risk of allowing unrestrained growth

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Robertsbridge,  
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From the Reverend Dr H. C. Lefever  
Sir, During the past few weeks I have noticed an increasing use of the terms hysteria and hysteria in your correspondence columns, notably in the discussion on pornography. Two instances this week occur in the letters from Mr John Mortimer (Tuesday 3) and Dr B. Richards (February 5).  
In all these recent instances I have had the uneasy feeling that the terms are being used loosely to describe views, expressed with conviction, which one does not happen to hold oneself.  
On the pornography issue I am an unashamed Puritan, but I would maintain that my views are based on an open-minded reflection on experience and are not "morbidly emotional". (Consult Oxford Dictionary). I refuse to be bullied by these latter-day Andrew Aguecheeks.  
Yours faithfully,  
HENRY LEFEVER,  
8 Otten Hill Place,  
Canterbury,  
February 5.

From Mr Charles McCullough, QC  
Sir, A short acquaintance with pornography is enough to reveal that the activities photographed and described are, even in these days, comparatively few.  
The Obscene Publications Act, 1959, having plainly failed to achieve what Parliament intended, a considerable might now be given to the introduction of a measure which listed the activities which it would be an offence to describe in books or shown in photographs, eg (a) sexual activity involving a child; (b) sexual activity between a human and an animal; (c) sexual activity involving the infliction of pain—and so on. Those who have seen any quantity of pornography will have little difficulty in continuing the list.  
Parliament might consider whether some activities might possibly be described in books, but might not lawfully be shown in photographs (eg sexual intercourse). Agreement would no doubt be easier over photographs than the printed word, but at least this would be a start. There would, of course have to be certain exceptions, eg for genuine medical textbooks.  
In writing to you I am not concerned to advocate that any particular activity should fall on one side of the line or the other, nor am I expressing any view as to whether one should aim to prohibit

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From Mr Kenneth Winkles  
Sir, The main news item in your January 26 issue reports, in relation to the White Paper on public expenditure, that "some work must be eliminated, and that a new reduced service to the public". Something similar is being said when major power economies in the nationalized industries are under review.  
No doubt some services are a very low priority and should no longer be provided; but such a service, the assumption and that it should be challenged as a non sequitur.  
Yours faithfully,  
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### The battle for a newspaper

From Mr Stafford Somerfield  
Sir, Michael Leapman, reviewing in The Times a book about Rupert Murdoch by Simon Regan (January 29), says he would like to know the details of how the takeover of the Australia outmarket people more experienced in City ways, to gain possession of his two London newspapers.  
"Regan", writes Leapman, "does not, in the end, reveal anything of interest presumably because he has been unable to find much out."  
I was editor of the News of the World when Murdoch got it. I know how it was done, and I have written about it. But my book, Battle for a Newspaper, has not been published.  
The publisher, having paid me £1,000 in advance royalties, withdrew.  
My problem now is to find someone who believes in Lord Cadogan's dictum—Publish and be Damned—and says let the story be told.  
Yours faithfully,  
STAFFORD SOMERFIELD,  
Farnham, Dorset Park,  
Borham, Sussex.

Views of the left  
From Mr Bert Ranselton  
Sir, Unperturbed, or perhaps stung by the almost universal condemnation of his television programme Who Says It Could Never Happen Here? as a particularly nasty example of the use of medieval technique to distort the views of his opponents, Lord Chalfont is apparently resorting to the same technique in your columns (February 2).  
He writes: "What is interesting about all this is not so much that the left presents the message which the television programme set out to convey—although much of it was delivered out of the mouths of its own representatives" (my italics).  
But all the criticisms, including those of The Daily Telegraph and The Listener which I would list, and they are hardly to be counted among the left, were precisely that by use of scissors and glue he prevented the viewing public from hearing the views of those interviewed and indeed conveyed the very opposite of what they said.  
That was certainly so in my case. By slashing, fragmenting and inserting such fragments in juxtaposition to fragments from other peoples' statements and by reducing a half hour interview to under two minutes, he conveyed what I would say was a political issue the exact opposite of what I intended to convey. The particular distortion fitted in neatly with Lord Chalfont's obsessive theory of "political conspiracy".  
To judge from my own experience in this affair I would say that the following comment from the review of the programme in The Listener is much nearer the truth than Chalfont's outrageous statement that it "was delivered out of the mouths...".  
"It was unfair—particularly to some of the candidates on the left. Every question in every interview was cut out, so the viewer had no means of knowing the interrogative to which the abbreviated clips of answer were responding. What this is, in effect, very dangerous indeed." What is dangerous? We shall never know, since the questions are now debris on the cutting room floor." The Listener, January 24.  
Yours faithfully,  
BERT RANSELTON, National Industrial Organizer,  
Communist Party of Great Britain,  
16 King Street, WC2.

One-sided threats  
From Mr J. C. Broom  
Sir, Western criticism of the Eastern block always "threats" détente". Eastern criticism of the West never does, or so it seems. Why?  
Yours faithfully,  
J. C. BROOM,  
The Broomage,  
Turnham Road,  
Barnes, Middlesex,  
Surrey.

CD plates on cars  
From Mr Stephen Whitwell  
Sir, I read in The Times today that the mere use of CD plates (for delivering cokes) is no offence in London. Is it not true that it was? When still a serving clerk, I remember asking the Foreign Office protocol people about the use of CD plates and being told that it had no legal significance "as such" (like "mere" a supposedly helpful phrase which is in fact an obstacle to understanding). This was all very well when there was no parking problem in London. Now, with so many people trying, reasonably enough, to squeeze into a few parking spaces, it would be a public service if a regulation could be made restricting the use of CD plates to members of a diplomatic mission.  
Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN WHITWELL,  
Jervis Cottage,  
Aston Tirrill,  
Nidder,  
Oxfordshire.

Engaged  
From Mr Douglas Price  
Sir, May I be permitted to inform Mr C. C. Stephens that my letter of the interpretation with regard to the contemporary world has not been taken up by the Foreign Office. I remember asking the Foreign Office protocol people about the use of CD plates and being told that it had no legal significance "as such" (like "mere" a supposedly helpful phrase which is in fact an obstacle to understanding). This was all very well when there was no parking problem in London. Now, with so many people trying, reasonably enough, to squeeze into a few parking spaces, it would be a public service if a regulation could be made restricting the use of CD plates to members of a diplomatic mission.  
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**SECOND DIVISION:** Baiter v. Draughts; Faldy v. Worthington; Tean v. 500; H. H. v. Blackall; Borough; New Rumbel v. Faldy; 500 v. Baiter; H. H. v. Kornela v. Duncaster; York v. Hymn.



Only once in almost 40 years has Cardiff proved fertile territory for the rising Scots. But most of the battles have been close, hard-fought affairs and, of all Wales's opponents in the championship, Scotland, with tight and restrictive scrums, have seemed the likeliest in recent seasons to make their life difficult.

Wales		Scotland	
J. P. R. Williams	15	A. R. Irvine	15
(Pontypool)		(North) FP	
T. G. R. Davies	14	W. C. C. Steele	14
(Cardiff)		(South) Scottish	
R. W. G. Howell	13	J. M. Renwick	13
(Llanelli)		(North)	
S. P. F. Jenkins	12	A. G. Cunningham	12
(Cardiff)		(North)	
J. J. Williams	11	D. Sheehan	11
(Llanelli)		(West of Scotland)	
P. Bennett	10	I. R. McGeechan	10
(Cardiff)		(North)	
G. O. Edwards	9	D. W. Morgan	9
(Cardiff)		(North) Scottish	
A. C. F. Parlane	1	J. McClelland	1
(Pontypool)		(North)	
R. W. Windsor	2	D. Fisher	2
(Pontypool)		(North)	
G. Price	3	A. B. Carmichael	3
(Cardiff)		(West of Scotland)	
A. J. Martin	4	A. F. McEwan	4
(North)		(North) Scottish	
G. A. P. Bebb	5	G. L. Brown	5
(North)		(West of Scotland)	
J. Edwards	6	M. Egan	6
(Pontypool)		(North) Scottish	
T. M. Davies	8	G. Y. Macdonald	8
(North)		(North)	
P. J. Evans	7	D. G. Leslie	7
		(North)	

The changes involve the injured Tock, Francis Haget, who has given up his place to Limberoon, and Andre Dubertrand, whose place on the left wing goes to Averson. Dubertrand scored France's only try in the 1974 World Cup. He is considered to be the best left wing in France and has had a series of good performances for his club, La Jonette. Sansalli was missing four changes from the side between 20-10 by Australia, and has been forced to leave the team because of a loose head prop. Paddy Agnew, has a knee ligament injury.

There are two new caps to the pack, Brendan Foley, a Limerick lorry driver, coming into the second row, and Philip Orr, at prop, for Agnew. Slattery, whose

One change the England selectors will have to make is to find a replacement for Squires who has been injured and is unlikely to provide a fine opportunity for the free scoring Harlequins and Middlesex wing Colin Lambert to make his claim for a first cap. Both counties have had to make changes to their line-ups. The North Midlands No 8 has withered with influenza and Leslie Drayton will have to play in the control game. They possess a formidable front row in Barrow, Harris and Ralston and in the backs to Ralston and Ripley. If Moley and Young can distribute the possession wisely, Middlesex should prove too strong for North Midlands, who struggled to win their first cashmere and Cheshire play off at New Brighton today to decide who plays the champions.

[illegible]

## Turner steers New Zealand on a steady course

[illegible]

Good	Varied	Fine	6
Good	Varied	Fair	-1
Good	Varied	Sun	1

applied by representatives of the  
to lower slopes and U to upper  
been received from other sources.

Today Boy, Frutkin, Little Glory,  
Laddie David, 18 ran.  
TOTE: Wn. 394; places, 14p. 31.85.  
9p. 650. S. Nesbitt at Ripon. 21. 4L  
Winner bought in for 010 guineas.

11-1 Bully RAN 1-1 Groceries 1904  
 16-1 Bulch Caydaly 14th. 1904  
 Swallow 16-1 King Rose 20-1  
 Rolla 1st. Whispering Grass 20-1  
 Cracker 170-1. Swaney Guide 191. Tudor  
 Wire in 10. Hamilton.  
 V P. Crane  
 Double Fault, M. H. Prince  
 —Suspension J. Waltham  
 N. Barr  
 Free Glad 1 m. by Fred B01

	Depth (cm)		Conditions		Weather (5 pm)	
	L	U	Piste	Piste off		°C
Craos	30	75	Good	Heavy	Sun	3

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**CROFT HURDLE** (Handl.  
cap. 272; 3m)  
**Lord Street.** gr h. by Cash and  
Jolly King, L.  
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TOE: Wn. 100; place, 10p. 43

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geon to flight

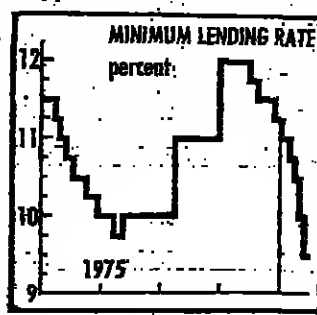
# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

### and bank base rates cut again, interest costs may be stabilizing

consecutive interest rates by a 1 per cent, the Bank of England has seen a 5 per cent increase in the rate of inflation. The Bank's policy is to keep the rate of inflation at 5 per cent, but it has been forced to raise the rate of interest to 15 per cent. The Bank's policy is to keep the rate of inflation at 5 per cent, but it has been forced to raise the rate of interest to 15 per cent. The Bank's policy is to keep the rate of inflation at 5 per cent, but it has been forced to raise the rate of interest to 15 per cent.



open market operations next week. This means that the official rate will be 15 per cent, which is a significant increase from the 10 per cent rate that was in effect for several months. The Bank's policy is to keep the rate of inflation at 5 per cent, but it has been forced to raise the rate of interest to 15 per cent.

ment, ending, was less than in the same month last year. Revenues 27 per cent up on a year, but expenditure was 12 per cent up. As January is the main tax-gathering month, it is not surprising that the final deficit of this financial year will be a further deficit on the National Loans Fund.

### Maritime cancels £120m options for tankers from Swan Hunter

By Peter Hill  
Options on £120m worth of shipbuilding orders held by the Maritime group have been cancelled. The cancellations of more than 13 options on tankers placed by Maritime with Swan Hunter, the shipbuilding group, has a 75 per cent stake in the joint company with the balance held by Swan Hunter.

in its supply and service contracts. Maritime's involvement with the order-starved British shipbuilding industry dates back to 1973 when MFC formed Swan Maritime with Swan Hunter. The shipping group has a 75 per cent stake in the joint company with the balance held by Swan Hunter.

the MFC orders and options. Union leaders have become increasingly concerned in recent weeks over the impact of any withdrawal by MFC from the options it held with the Tyne-side group.

### £1.14m bid by Ladbroke Group for Totalisators

By Our Financial Staff  
Ladbroke Group, the gambling and leisure organisation, is bidding £1.14m for Totalisators and Greyhound Holdings, Britain's second-largest greyhound track operator. Ladbroke has agreed to buy Estates House, an investment trust, 40,840 per cent share stake in Totalisators for £553,000.

### FNFC loses £83.2m after big write-off

By Our Financial Staff  
First National Finance Corporation lost £83.2m in its 10-month financial period to the end of October.

### Gas-cooled reactors join grid

By Roger Violevo  
Britain's first two advanced gas-cooled nuclear reactors are now joined to the national electricity distribution grid and during the next five months will build up to full power.

### Lloyds announces £74m rights issue

By Christopher Wilkins  
Lloyds Bank yesterday announced the biggest rights issue since British Petroleum raised £123m in October 1971. The bank is asking shareholders to put up £74m by buying one share for every four they already hold.

suit of profit retentions, and that it was becoming increasingly desirable for them to correct the imbalance by raising new equity.

### US dumping acrylic sheet, ICI claims

ICI Plastics division has applied to the Department of Trade for anti-dumping duties on imports of acrylic sheet from the United States. ICI is the largest manufacturer of acrylic sheet in Britain.

### Drop in American jobless boosts recovery hopes

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, Feb 6  
Unemployment fell sharply in the United States last month, with total employment continuing to rise at a strong pace.

### Culham query for Mr Benn

By Our Political Staff  
Mr John Biffen, the Conservative spokesman on energy, yesterday called for a clear statement from Mr Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, on the virtues of Britain's Culham laboratories, near Oxford, as the site for the Joint European Torus project, compared with the rival Culham site.

### Increase in OECD price rises slows

Paris, Feb 6—Consumer prices in the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), slowed their increase to 9.2 per cent in 1975, compared with a rise of 10.6 per cent in 1974, it was announced yesterday.

### M&G's Personal Pension Plan for the self-employed offers:

Complete details of the M&G Personal Pension Plan, please write to M&G, Three Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ, or the M&G Advisory Department at 01-626 4588.

### Optimism over pay policy by engineering chief

By Clifford Webb  
Another large body of engineering companies yesterday revealed that its members would probably support a percentage increase in wages of 5 per cent for 1976.

### Newman advice cleared

An independent report by Schroders, the City merchant bank, has concluded that it was "not unreasonable" for the board of Newman Industries to recommend to shareholders the controversial deal involving the takeover of TPG.

### Gilt lower after 'tap' stock news

Another cut in MLR and reductions in base rates by the leading banks had been widely expected on the stock market yesterday. Bond prices ended the day with minor falls and gilts turned down after the announcement of terms for a new government "tap" stock, but were less active than in previous sessions.

### M&G Personal Pension Plan

Complete details of the M&G Personal Pension Plan, please write to M&G, Three Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ, or the M&G Advisory Department at 01-626 4588.

### Lord Ryder clash with Rolls-Royce board

Continued from page 1  
the nationalized Rolls-Royce company several years ago.

Both the Prime Minister and Mr Varley have apparently been informed about the strength of feeling within Rolls-Royce and the threat to Lord Ryder's future relationship with its directors.

briefly consulted for his views on the deal.

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Avco H. & Ross 10p to 42p	Barclays Bank 5p to 33p
Brit Sugar 5p to 35p	Charter Corp 10p to 15p
Dowdy Group 3p to 10p	Crest Nicholson 3p to 35p
Harrold & Nxt 3p to 35p	GE 4p to 15p
Hill, C. Bristol 3p to 15p	Hong K & Shang 15p to 34p
	Jardine Math 18p to 42p
	Johnson Mat 7p to 36p

THE POUND	
Bank	Bank
Australia \$ 1.57	1.51
Belgium sfr 36.75	36.25
Canada \$ 82.75	82.25
Denmark kr 12.50	12.49
Finland mkk 5.29	5.25
France fr 6.55	6.54
Germany DM 3.36	3.35
Greece Dr 84.00	83.00
Hong Kong \$ 10.49	10.49
Italy Lr 1640.00	1630.00
Japan Yen 360.00	358.00
Netherlands Gld 2.48	2.47
Norway kr 11.30	11.25
Portugal Esc 200.00	198.00
Spain Ptas 166.67	165.00
Sweden kr 4.63	4.61
Switzerland Fr 5.35	5.31
US \$ 2.47	2.46
Yugoslav Dnr 45.50	45.00



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Fixed interest

Minimum lending rate is down again, by another half point to 9½ per cent: and the gilt-edged market went weak at the knees after the news. Why?

It had something to do with the new "tap" stock issued by the Government Broker—it is in fact not new but a second tranche of the existing Treasury 12½ per cent 1993. Stock

worth £600m is to be issued at an opening price of £95½.

The market read into the decision not to issue a new stock a Bank of England indication that the scope had run out for further falls in interest rates.

So although the publication of fairly favourable Consolidated Fund statistics (they

show a reversion to the normal government surplus in January, the height of the tax gathering season) late yesterday afternoon may impart little enthusiasm on Monday morning, it is likely to be muted. And unless American interest rates ease off again it looks as though most of the fun in the gilt-edged market is over.

## Why it pays to tax your brains before you buy

By courtesy of an obliging broker I recently received a list of British Government stocks now in issue, with the return to investors at various tax rates worked out and attached. And I must admit that I read this seemingly innocuous document with a mounting sense of incredulity.

Everyone knows that with tax taking up to 98p in the pound on some unearned income the element of capital gain in the return on government stock can be very well worth having; but I had known it as one knows, say, that a man-eating tiger is dangerous: the knowledge acquires a new dimension when you are close enough to count its teeth.

Just as in such circumstances the oldest piece of capital gain weaponry assumes desirable attributes, so, in the presence of the equally voracious tax man, the attractions of a tax-free gain are manifold. The brokers establish their weight by calculating what an alternative investment would have to offer gross in capital gain and income—the "equivalent gross redemption yield" in common parlance—to provide the same net return to individual taxpayers.

In the case of a high taxpayer, prepared to hold his gift for more than a year and a day to avoid taxation on any capital gain, the answer is a heck of a lot.

Take, for example, Funding 54 per cent 1987-91, at present standing at about £59 for a gross redemption yield (so your paper will tell you) of around 12 per cent: modest enough, in all conscience. Yet the man

paying tax at 98p in the pound would, to obtain an equivalent net return in the period to redemption, have to go looking for something which offered him a gross redemption yield of over 177 per cent.

There are other examples which are better still. For the taxpayer the goodies available on an investment in British Transport 3 per cent 1978-88 at around £50½—at which level, remember, he stands to make a tax-free capital gain of almost 100 per cent over the period to redemption—could be matched only by an alternative investment on a gross redemption yield of more than 280 per cent.

To lower-rate taxpayers the tax-free element of capital gain is worth less, but it can still be significant. Anyone paying 83 pence in the pound would require an investment selling on a gross redemption yield of more than 36½ per cent to compete with the attractions of British Transport 3 per cent; and that cannot at the moment be provided by any other government stock.

The investor paying 60 pence in the pound, however, and requiring an equivalent gross redemption yield of more than 171 per cent to provide him with a better net return than that available on the same stock should be able to get it from the purchase of either British Gas 3 per cent 1990-95 or Redemption 3 per cent 1986-86.

For the basic rate taxpayer, requiring an equivalent gross redemption yield of more than

12½ per cent to compete with the merits of "Transport 3s", there are any number of stocks—admittedly of longer dates—which will provide a better net return overall and higher income in the meantime, too.

With returns to the individual varying so widely, then, according to his tax rate, how is he to determine between the merits of two stocks selling on much the same redemption yield? Well, the basic rule still holds: the higher your tax rate the lower the coupon you should be looking for—the simple reason that much more of the return is coming through in capital gain.

The investor paying 83p in the pound and planning to hold to redemption might, for example, be dithering between the advantages of Treasury 12 per cent 1983 and those of Gas 3 per cent 1990-95, both of which are selling on a gross redemption yield of about 11½ per cent. The former, however, is selling at over par, and there will be a capital loss on a holding to redemption. So an alternative investment offering a gross redemption yield of little over 6 per cent will, to such a taxpayer, have superior attractions, whereas, as we have seen, the net return on British Gas, which will appreciate by the best part of 200 per cent over the period to redemption, cannot be outstripped by any investment selling on a gross redemption yield of much under 37 per cent.

Adrienne Gleeson

## Slow off the mark to lower rates

As interest rates continue to slide downwards, it is time to consider the more inflexible investment vehicles which are being left stranded on a high income rate plateau.

Building society investment rates and the terms offered by National Savings are two very good examples of institutions which are unable to move rapidly to catch up with an interest rate trend. (It takes, incidentally, at least four months from deciding to change National Savings rates to having the products with new rates on sale across the Post Office counter.)

My colleague Adrienne Gleeson has, in the accompanying article, outlined the possibilities for the more sophisticated investor and drawn attention to the importance of a gross equivalent redemption yield. Not everyone, however, wishes to become embroiled in the complexities of the gilt-edged market and this article is designed for the investor/saver who wishes to lock his money away safely and forget about it until maturity.

However, even the most reluctant investor has to give attention to his own tax rate—and a glance at the table shows why. Using the net return as a yardstick it is easy to see that fairly simple investments are very attractive to taxpayers at different rates.

Two points stick out. Building society shares or term deposits where the money is locked away for a stipulated period are marvellous for the basic rate taxpayer. But they lack lustre for not only low or nil rate taxpayers but also for people at higher rates of tax.

Tax rate	NET RETURNS TO TAXPAYERS			
	nil	35%	45%	55%
On demand				
Bank deposit	5.5	3.58	3.02	2.49
Nat Savings Bank	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Building soc share	7.0	7.0	5.9	4.84
Investment a/c TSB				
and Nat Savings Bank	6.0-9.5	3.9-6.17	3.3-5.23	2.7-4.27
One year				
Local authority loan	10.75	7.0	5.92	4.84
Building soc term shares	7.5	7.5	6.33	5.18
Two years				
Local authority loan	12.00	7.8	6.8	5.4
Building soc term shares	7.75	7.75	6.55	5.35
AMEV bond	8.54	8.54	8.54	8.54
Three years				
Local authority loan	12.25	7.95	6.75	5.92
Building soc term shares	8.00	8.00	8.77	5.54
Four years				
14th issue Nat savings certificates	7.59	7.59	7.59	7.59
Local authority loan	12.5	8.13	6.88	5.82

Demand varying between 7 days and 3 months.

In the former category, the returns being offered by local authorities for amounts as little as £250, although £500 is a more common minimum, are much more attractive.

Higher rate taxpayers, however, should always keep their eyes open for tax-free investments. Even the frequently despised National Savings Bank account offering 4 per cent tax-free on the first £1,000 invested begins to look reasonably attractive to higher rate taxpayers, particularly those who are subject to the investment income surcharge.

The 14th issue of National Savings Certificates—no current issue for tax-free investment—is worth more than a second glance. It depends on how one views interest rates in the future. My own opinion is that this particular issue is likely to outstrip the return on building societies—the principal competitor—for some time.

Margaret Stone

## Taxation: readers ask

## Age allowances and capital transfers

In view of the cumulation of readers' letters I am answering a few again this week and the inquiries cover age allowance, capital transfer tax, capital gains tax and mortgage interest.

On age allowance a reader tells me that he calculated his income for the year ended April 5, 1976, to be just below £3,000, which would entitle him to the full allowance of £1,425 on his notice of coding. His figures submitted to the tax office totalled £2,967 and included building society interest received of £700. He tells me: "The inspector wrote saying that they had to gross up the building society interest at 33 per cent making it £1,044 and the total income £3,311 so that I should only be entitled to marginal relief. The point might interest your readers."

I cannot fault the inspector's logic as the building society interest is paid free of tax. However, it has made me wonder if it might be more sensible for me to take out, say half of my savings and use it as a deposit to buy a flat. Can you please tell me if an owner-occupied flat or house would be brought into the calculation on the basis of the national income it brings in?

Of course, there are other considerations involved, but the tax relief is material.

First let me make the point, otherwise my readers will, that the building society interest should be grossed up at 35 per cent for 1975-76 (the first year of the new age allowance scheme).

This grossing up of building society interest catches many taxpayers unaware. For the basic rate taxpayer there is no additional tax to pay, but the grossing up affects total income for age allowance, as in the particular case, it also involves additional tax on the income surcharge and the higher rates of tax.

At the other end of the income scale it may not be wise for those on low incomes to have building society interest in the tax deducted at source is not repayable. It can be used to reduce the total tax bill but the Inland Revenue will not physically repay the tax.

As this reader does not own a house what he proposes is in principle a good idea. There is no question of the Inland Revenue including a national income from the owner-occupation of a flat or house. It would be a different matter, of course, if the owner let out a room or two and received rent. The rent, less certain expenses, would be included in income.

In one of my articles on capital transfer tax I looked at the rule concerning free loans in the light of the exemptions. A reader writes: "Assuming a loan of £10,000 from a father to a son, you have suggested that the Inland Revenue might take the market value of the gift at 15 per cent, that is £1,500. It may be that that sort of rate is obtainable, but as the question of living has been reduced, it seems to me that one has to deal with the facts of the particular case."

Most of my spendable unearned income is in building societies at 7 per cent not, or a shade less, say 6 per cent after deducting higher rate tax.



of tapping oil stocks

Surely therefore my situation has been reduced, only £500?

There are two issues here—first, the matter for CTT purposes of the interest foregone on the free and secondly whether deemed interest will be CTT charge under the Finance Act 1975 measure amount of interest deemed a gift as the difference between the amount of contribution (if any) and the deduction that could reasonably be expected.

This section has not put to the test yet because does not come into force April 6 this year, and in case it is to be reduced because its impact is far than was originally intended. However, I take this point and would hope to see the Inland Revenue building society specific rules for making loans, the Inland Revenue accept the building society as being the consideration could reasonably be expected. But the measure will be before tax.

Having measured the age allowance for CTT the donor then asks, is it or it may escape under £1,000, and £100 rules or the normal expenditure will apply if there is a gift (a loan is not a gift to a short-term) and the lender is left with sufficient income to maintain his standard of living.

When writing about the gift of rooms I mentioned the sale of the capital gains tax may be payable because of relief and retirement. A reader says: "I am not clear about whether anyone carrying another activity, for example, a business, would be able to claim from CTT up to £20,000 in the house without another after he had the age of 65."

Provided that individual been working for 10 years or more, then yes, in my opinion the retirement allowance can be claimed in circumstances. The Finance Act 1965.

Once the individual is the age of 65 exemption claimant at the rate of £1,000 for each year over 65 until the maximum of £10,000 is reached at 65.

Vera Di Pietro

## Linked life policies • Women and pensions

I wholeheartedly support the view expressed by David Lewis, the editor of Money Management, in his introduction to the group's latest publication *Regular Savings Plans* (price £3.85). He attacks regular savings plans as being unnecessarily complicated adding that "complication and poor value-for-money are out in fact coincidental".

There is a case, maintains Mr Lewis, for saying that all investment-linked policies should have a common structure, regulated by law. He himself prefers the less rigid approach that companies should be compelled to work out procedures according to some standard formula, which would thereby enable investors to make meaningful comparisons between one policy and another.

In fact, the *Money Management* guidebook does precisely this most useful exercise. It

has worked on a common growth rate and devised an average monthly investment, as well as adjusting for the differing levels of charges.

Its calculations of the National Westminster Sunflower plan is the best performer for those with a modest amount to invest each month, while Windsor Life and Trident do better for larger monthly premiums.

There is more to buying a policy, however, than merely selecting one with the best projected growth record. The book, therefore, gives a list of plus and minus factors which should influence the choice of prospective policyholders.

summary of the position of women both as prospective pensioners in their own right and as dependants, covered or not by their husbands' pension scheme.

I am glad to see the appearance of this booklet, but one could wish that CPIC had been a little more provocative by prompting women to ask not only what their rights should be, but also what their rights should be.

Most motor insurers try to avoid students, but Endleigh (Brokers) Ltd, owned by the National Union of Students. It sells to students and tries to keep them on the books as they grow older, and become better risks. Of its 40,000 motor policyholders, only one third actually are students.

Endsleigh has arranged a

"simplified" form of motor insurance with Federation Mutual Insurance. Policies run for only six months. Instead of renewing, a fresh proposal form is issued, and a fresh policy is issued. Change of car or address do not affect the premium while a policy is in force, and no returns of premium are allowed.

There are only three geographical rating areas, and five categories for different types of car. Premiums are loaded according to age (for those under 25) and the excess for accidental damage varies according to the age of the driver and where the accident occurs—it is £25 if it occurs in London or Glasgow postal areas, or Northern Ireland.

Often, because of the simplification in rating, NUS members and those who have been members (for whom the

scheme is designed) can calculate their own premium and compare them against what is available elsewhere.

Instead of a no-claim discount, there is a discount for those insured under the scheme continuously for two or more years, irrespective of the old claim.

Any company which rates risks without the same distinctions as the rest of the market is open to "selection" against it. Those offered higher terms elsewhere will come to it; the others (who are considered by insurers to be better risks) will not. Thus claims experience can be worse than expected.

Do not simply double this premium to compare with an annual policy elsewhere. The second six months' premium may well be significantly higher than the first six months' policy.

"Flexible" endowment policies, where guaranteed cash bonuses can be taken at any time before the age of 65, provided the policy has been running for at least 10 years, are becoming increasingly popular. But they can present investment problems for life companies.

Sun Life Assurance is following the Scottish Amicable by introducing a new bonus structure for new policies of this type. Initially instead of a normal 4.30 per cent, it will be £3.50 per cent, plus £5.50 per cent of attaching bonuses. So it pays to keep a policy in force as long as possible—which is what the office wants.

Very roughly, if these rates are maintained, the new bonus structure will pay less if a policy is cashed in the first 25 years or so, and more if it is held for longer.

## American opportunity American "PIMS"

THE CASE FOR INVESTING IN THE U.S.A. Schlesingers strongly recommend that every portfolio should be at least 25% invested in the U.S.A. for the following reasons:

1. The U.S. economy is the largest and most diversified in the free world. The market capitalisation of the U.S. stock market is greater than the combined capitalisation of all the other stock exchanges in the world.

2. The dollar appears undervalued and the balance of payments fundamentally sound, e.g. the U.S.A. is 100% self-sufficient as to food, 60% as to oil.

3. The Ford Administration is successfully refuting the economy out of recession.

4. The rate of inflation is anticipated to be reduced to below 6% p.a. within eighteen months.

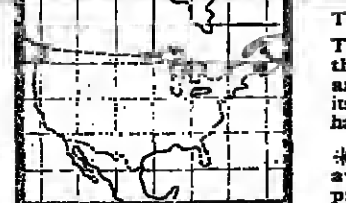
5. Both political parties and the Labour Union are totally committed to a capitalist economy and all recognise the need for profits and understand the role of shareholders and dividends in the system.

6. There are no government controls of prices, incomes or dividends in the U.S.A., and none are expected in the foreseeable future.

7. We expect corporate profits to rise 20-25% in 1976 with a further rise in 1977.

8. U.S. equities are attractively valued in terms of P/E ratios and asset values relative to historic valuations.

The above factors represent, in Schlesingers' view, an overwhelming argument in favour of every portfolio investing at least 25% in the U.S.A.



INVESTMENT ADVANTAGES OF AMERICAN "PIMS" "PIMS" is the Personal Investment Management Service, designed for the larger investor of £100,000 and is linked to the Trident Unit Trusts including the Trident American Growth Fund. The service includes the following benefits:

- \* A more personal service and continued involvement in your investment through our specialist advisory departments.
- \* A valuation and detailed portfolio report every other month.
- \* Invitations to regular meetings with the investment managers.
- \* The benefit of Schlesingers' proven international management together with the important tax and other advantages available to a unit trust vehicle.

RECOMMENDATION The managers remain strongly confident of Wall Street on a 1-3 year view. The recent strength of that market and increasing confidence in the U.S.A. now provide an outstanding opportunity.

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THE FUND The fund participated fully in the Wall Street recovery of 1975 and the price rose 34% since its launch in August 1974 (the price has risen over 31%...)

\* The fund substantially avoids exposure to the 5% premium which means that most of your money goes into productive investment and avoids the 25% surrender rule by using back-to-back loan facilities.

"PIMS"—THE RECOMMENDATION OF MANY PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS The Trident American Growth Fund was the most popular American unit trust in 1975, expanding from £120,000 to £4.4 million, with over 90% of the new investment coming on the recommendation of professional advisers.

For full details, please write to Client Liaison Dept., Schlesingers, 149 South Street, Dorking, Surrey. If you would like to discuss your personal requirements please contact Jan Forsyth at our London office.

I would like full information on the American PIMS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

## Boardroom decisions as the spirit moves

My elder son has developed a new passion for Greek. He spends much of his time immersed in the histories of Herodotus, regaling us with details of the curious practices of the Persians at the time of Cyrus the Great.

There is perhaps something to be learnt from the curious practices of the Persians at the time of Cyrus the Great. Cyrus the Great organized the Persians into a machine of formidable efficiency, a feat not to be sneered at by a nation where if the cost of postage is increased so that the number of letters posted declines by 17 per cent, the obvious answer is to increase the cost of postage yet again.

But what was the secret of their success, these Persians? Browsing through Herodotus for the answer, I suddenly struck a vein of pure logic that immediately laid clear the foundation upon which the whole empire was built. It was this.

If an important decision was to be made, they would discuss the question when they were drunk, and then the master of the household where the discussion was held would submit the decision for reconsideration to the meeting when sober. If it was approved it would be adopted. Conversely, any resolution made by a meeting when sober would be drunk, its adoption or abandonment being decided in similar manner.

The simplicity is breathtaking. It may of course have led to some inflexibility, which could possibly account for the fact that the laws of the Medes and Persians were never changed. However, as demonstrated, the system obviously worked. Here we sit in our technological slums, dreaming up newer and more complex management tools to run our affairs with, when all the time this antique but widely effective methodology has been staring us in the face. As is so often the case, though our old friend, Colonel Rudolph Grog-



Hollywood

"Minutes of the 985th meeting of the board of directors of Elderberry Wines Ltd, held at Room 504, Hotel Mardi Gras, Rio de Janeiro, on Monday, January 19, 1976."

Devington, famed student of the classics and chairman of Allied Elderberry Wines Limited, has got there first. Minutes of the 984th meeting of the board of directors of Allied Elderberry Wines Limited, held at Elderberry House, Dartmoor, Devonshire on Wednesday, January 14, 1976.

Present: Col Rudolph Grogg-Berington (in the chair); Lord Trite of Cricklewood; Sir Harry Hail-Staggs; Mr Samuel de Fame; Mr Silas Crampwhistle. In attendance: Mr Alistair Sibling (secretary); Miss Gloria Darling-Friend (assistant secretary).

Minutes of the 983rd meeting of directors held at Elderberry House on Wednesday December 17, 1975, were read and approved. 2. Staff Appointment. The chairman congratulated Miss Gloria Darling-Friend on her promotion from chairman's personal assistant to the position of assistant secretary of the company. Two bottles of Elderberry 1968 were tabled

and considered. On the motion of the chairman, it was resolved: "That a toast be and it is hereby drunk to the happiness and success of Miss Gloria Darling-Friend in her position as assistant secretary to the company."

3. Production Report. The production report for the month of December was tabled, together with two bottles of the product. It was noted that the specific gravity was somewhat lower than customary due to the fact that a carboy of methylated spirits had fallen by mistake into the berry-fuddling machinery. The relative merits of methylated spirits and pink paraffin as a colouring agent were discussed, and it was resolved: "That another two bottles of the December production be and they are hereby tabled for optical and other tests."

Optical and other tests having been carried out, it was agreed that the December production should be relabelled and marketed as a slug killer. (Mr Silas Crampwhistle left the meeting.)

4. Marketing and Sales. The marketing and sales report for the month of December was tabled and considered together with the launch review for the Dandelion-Flower 1972. Three bottles of the Dandelion-Flower 1972 were noted. Lord Trite of Cricklewood reported that suddenly everything seemed to have gone all black. It was resolved: "That Lord Trite of Cricklewood be and he is hereby absent from the meeting."

(Lord Trite of Cricklewood left the meeting.) 5. Stock. The stock report was tabled and approved together with three bottles of Ginger and Marrow Non-Vintage. General satisfaction was expressed as to both the quantity and quality of the stock concerned, and it was resolved: "That general satisfaction be and it is hereby expressed as to both the quantity and quality of the stock concerned."

(Mr Samuel de Fame left the meeting.) 6. Appointment of Director.

There being a quorum directors, it was resolved: "That Miss Gloria Darling-Friend be and she is appointed a director of the company."

Two bottles of Raisin-nip 1966 were tabled and approved. The chairman congratulated Miss Gloria Darling-Friend on her appointment as director of the company and it was resolved: "That Miss Gloria Darling-Friend be and she is hereby absent from the meeting."

(Sir Harry Hail-Staggs left the meeting.) 7. Accounts. Draft accounts for the December 31, 1975, were tabled and considered, showing a cash balance on account of £1,000,182. It was resolved: "That the sum of transferred immediately account no. OK 70729 Banque des Gnomes, 28 Date of Next Meeting be and it is hereby agreed that the place of the next of the board of directors should be advised course."

Minutes of the 985th of the board of directors of Allied Elderberry Wines Limited, held at Room 504, Hotel Mardi Gras, Rio de Janeiro, on Monday, January 19, 1976.

Present: Col Rudolph Grogg-Berington (in the chair); Lord Trite of Cricklewood; Sir Harry Hail-Staggs; Mr Samuel de Fame; Mr Silas Crampwhistle. In attendance: Mr Alistair Sibling (secretary); Miss Gloria Darling-Friend (assistant secretary).

Minutes of the 984th of the board of directors of Allied Elderberry Wines Limited, held at Elderberry House, Dartmoor, Devonshire on Wednesday, January 14, 1976, were tabled and approved.

2. Matters Arising. All resolutions passed at the meeting were confirmed, and a thanks to the chair passed with acclamation. 3. Date of Next Meeting. It was agreed that the meeting of the board of directors should be held on Monday, January 19, 1976.

Francis Kin











## Firmer at the close

§ If war bargains are permitted on two previous days

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